

**UNITED STATES BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

This Quarterly Review List presents names proposed for geographic features in the United States. The names are offered to (1) identify previously unnamed features, (2) provide official recognition to names in current local usage, (3) resolve conflicts in name spellings, applications, and local usage, or (4) change existing names. Any organization, agency, or person may indicate to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) their support or opposition to any name proposed herein by submitting written evidence documenting their position.

The names herein are official for use in Federal publications and on maps upon approval by the BGN. Only one name is official per geographic feature; however, a shortened version of an official name may be authorized, and these are identified by underlining. The use or omission of non-underlined words is optional.

Variant names and spellings discovered in researching a name are listed following the word "Not." These may include names and spellings that formerly were official, historical names known to have been previously associated with the feature, names that conflict with current policies of the BGN, misspellings, and names misapplied to the subject of the proposal.

If a populated place is incorporated under the laws of its State, it is specified as such in parentheses after the feature designation. Populated places without such designations are not incorporated.

The information following each name indicates the submitting agency or person, the most recent base series map\* for locating the feature, the reason for the proposal, and other pertinent background facts needed to assist the BGN in its decision process. Each paragraph also includes a link to Google Maps showing the location of the feature (please note some URLs may be two lines). A copy of this Review List has also been posted to the BGN's website at [http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/quarterly\\_list.htm](http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/quarterly_list.htm).

Effective immediately, the horizontal datum used for geographic coordinates in all Domestic Geographic Names publications is the North American Datum of 1983. The datum of some geographic coordinates from historical maps may still be the NAD27.

Comments on the name proposals may be sent to: Mr. Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee, 523 National Center, Reston, VA 20192-0523; telephone (703) 648-4552; fax (703) 648-4549; e-mail [BGNESEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNESEC@usgs.gov).

**THE NAMES IN THIS REVIEW LIST MAY BE USED ONLY AFTER APPROVAL BY THE BGN**

\*Standard map series published by the U.S. Geological Survey, USDA Forest Service, or Office of Coast Survey.

## ALABAMA

**Turpentine Branch**: stream; 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long; heads at 30°35'14"N, 88°20'02"W, 1 km (0.6 mi) NE of Union Church, 7 km (4.4 mi) NE of the confluence of Bell Branch with Jackson Creek, flows NE to join Deakle Creek; the name refers to the many artifacts used by turpentiners in the early 1900's and found in the vicinity of the stream; Mobile County, Alabama; Secs 24&25, T7S, R4W, St. Stephens Mer.; 30°35'25"N, 88°19'45"W; USGS map – Saint Elmo 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=30.59022&p\\_longi=-88.3293](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=30.59022&p_longi=-88.3293)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=30.58722&p\\_longi=-88.33389](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=30.58722&p_longi=-88.33389)

Proposal: new name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Saint Elmo 1:24,000

Proponent: Robert Echement; Mobile, AL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal, to name a 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long unnamed perennial spring-fed stream in Mobile County Turpentine Branch, would recall the early 1900's local history of turpentiners. According to the proponent, numerous artifacts used by the people who worked the forests to derive the many products from the pine trees have been found in the area. The stream in question heads 1 km (0.6 mi) northeast of Union Church, 7 km (4.4 mi) northeast of the confluence of Bell Branch with Jackson Creek, before flowing 0.6 km (0.4 mi) to the northeast into Deakle Creek. According to the proponent, the stream has also been known as Bobland Creek, but this has not been confirmed nor is the origin of that name known. In a letter sent by the proponent opposing a proposed 2006 development, the area is described as a known Indian site. He added that it was settled in the early 1800's and was the possible site of a turpentine camp in the early 1900's. There are two locales called Turpentine Camp, one in Baldwin County and one in Escambia County, and a stream named Turpentine Still Branch in Randolph County.

## ALASKA

**Crescent Moon Island**: island; 1 acre; located at the NW end of Big Lake, 1.6 km (1 mi) NE of Never-Never Lake; descriptive name; Matanuska-Susitna Borough; Sec 26, T17N, R4W, Seward Mer.; 61°32'06"N, 149°56'12"W; USGS map – Anchorage C-8 SW 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=61.5351&p\\_longi=-149.9368](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=61.5351&p_longi=-149.9368)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS Anchorage C-8 SW 1:24,000

Proponent: D. Gayle Christensen; Anchorage, AK

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Crescent Moon Island (property owner)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the descriptive name Crescent Moon Island for a small island located toward the northwest end of Big Lake in Matanuska-Susitna Borough. It was submitted by the Alaska Historical Commission, the State's Geographic Names Authority, on

behalf of the island's owner, who reports that when she acquired the island she was told by the previous owner that it was called Crescent Moon Island. The AHC did not receive any response from the Borough government, nor from any of the Alaska Native groups that it contacted (Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; Eklutna, Inc.; Knikatu, Inc.; Big Lake Community Council), which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The Alaska State Parks Department also did not respond. The Mayor of the City of Houston did provide a letter of support for the proposal. The AHC recommends approval of the name Crescent Moon Island. GNIS lists 26 features in Alaska named "Crescent," including three islands named Crescent Island. None of these are in Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and there are no features in the State known to be named "Crescent Moon."

**Loon Island**: island; 1 acre; located at the SW end of Big Lake, 1.6 km (1 mi) E of Never-Never Lake; named for a pair of loons known to frequent the area; Matanuska-Susitna Borough; Sec 35, T17N, R4W, Seward Mer.; 61°31'06"N, 149°56'36"W; USGS map – Anchorage C-8 SW 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=61.51844&p\\_longi=-149.94326](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=61.51844&p_longi=-149.94326)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Anchorage C-8 SW 1:24,000

Proponent: Charlie and Holly Hamilton; Anchorage, AK

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Crescent Moon Island (property owner)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Loon Island to a small island located at the southwest end of Big Lake in Matanuska-Susitna Borough. It was submitted by the Alaska Historical Commission (AHC), the State's Geographic Names Authority, on behalf of a local property owner, who believes it would be helpful to give the island a name to aid in providing directions. The proponent reports that the proposed name would recognize the existence of a pair of nesting loons that frequent the island. The AHC did not receive any response from the Borough government, nor from any of the Alaska Native groups that it contacted (Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; Eklutna, Inc.; Knikatu, Inc.; Alexander Creek, Inc.; Montana Creek Native Association; Caswell Native Association; Big Lake Community Council), which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The Alaska State Parks Department also did not respond.

Although the Mayor of the City of Houston provided a letter of support, the AHC does not recommend approval of the name Loon Island, citing a lack of evidence of local support. GNIS lists 17 features in Alaska named "Loon," although none are islands. Only two, Loon Lake and Loonsong Lake, are in Matanuska-Susitna Borough; the closest is Loon Lake, approximately 13 km (8 mi) from the island in question.

**Mount Bearzi**: summit; elevation 2,143 m (7,030 ft); in Tongass National Forest, S of Baird Glacier, E of Witches Cauldron, 10 km (6 mi) NW of Devils Thumb; named for mountain climber Michael Anthony Bearzi (1953-2002), who climbed and explored many summits in the Stikine Icefield; Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area, Alaska; Sec 26, T54S, R81E, Copper River Mer.; 57°09'32"N, 132°29'32"W; USGS map - Sumdum A-2 1:63,360.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=57.15897&p\\_longi=-132.49234](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=57.15897&p_longi=-132.49234)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Sumdum A-2 1:63,360

Proponent: Dieter Klose; Petersburg, AK

Administrative area: Tongass National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: No record  
Local Usage: None found  
Published: None found

**Case Summary:** The new commemorative name Mount Bearzi is proposed for a 2,143 m (7,030 ft) summit in the Stikine Icefield, between Witches Cauldron and Baird Glacier. The proposal is intended to honor Michael Anthony Bearzi (1953-2002), who over several years climbed and explored many summits in the icefield. The proponent, a friend and climbing colleague of Bearzi's and a member of the Stikine Alpine Club, reports they attempted to climb the unnamed summit but were unsuccessful due to bad weather. Bearzi was killed in 2002 while attempting to climb the Northeast Face of Nepal's Gyachung Kang. According to his obituary, "Mike was a world-class alpinist. He was also a stand-out skier, bicyclist, photographer, writer and expert carpenter." Another online biography states, "In [the] early 1990s, as one of the most prominent pioneers of modern mixed climbing, Bearzi invented the "M system," a widely accepted method of ranking mixed climbs. He also has been to Everest three times, in 1992, 1993 and 1995, including two alpine-style attempts on the North Face and its Great Couloir Route without oxygen or any support. Bearzi also has put up new routes in Alaska, and in 1981, climbed Alaska's Devil's Thumb and Mt. Burkett. He started climbing along Colorado's Front Range in 1976." A letter of support from Bearzi's brother and a petition with 20 signatures endorsing the name were included with the application.

The Alaska Historical Commission (AHC), which serves as the State Names Authority, asked several Alaska Native groups to comment (Sealaska Corporation; Central Council Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska; and the Petersburg Indian Association), but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The AHC also forwarded the proposal to the City of Petersburg and the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, but once again, no comments were received. The U.S. Forest Service does not support the proposal, citing a lack of evidence of a long-term association between the intended honoree and the summit, and a belief that Bearzi did not make a significant contribution to the area or the State. The also AHC does not recommend approval of the name, noting, "While [we] recognize an accidental death is unfortunate and painful, commission members referenced their guidelines for commemorative names and did not find the association of the climber and the peak to have been long enough."

**Suncrest Lake:** lake; 45 acres; located partially in the Nancy Lake State Recreation Area, just E of Sunbeam Lake, 8 km (5 mi) SSW of Willow; named in association with adjacent Sunbeam Lake; Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska; Sec 36, T19N, R5W, Seward Mer.; 61°41'22"N, 150°06'17"W; USGS map - Tyonek C-1 NE 1:25,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=61.68939&p\\_longi=-150.10477](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=61.68939&p_longi=-150.10477)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature  
Map: USGS Tyonek C-1 NE 1:25,000  
Proponent: Neva P. Harnish; Anchorage, AK  
Administrative area: Nancy Lake State Recreation Area  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: No record  
Local Usage: None found  
Published: None found

**Case Summary:** The new name Suncrest Lake is proposed for a 45-acre lake in Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 8 km (5 mi) south-southwest of the community of Willow. The southern tip of the lake also extends into the Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. The proponent, who owns the majority of

the property surrounding the lake, suggests the new name would be appropriate as the lake lies immediately to the east of Sunbeam Lake, a name that was approved by the BGN in 1999. In 1997, the BGN received a proposal to name this unnamed lake Boots Lake, but it was rejected due to the existence of another lake with a duplicate name nearby. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Land Manager has no objection to the proposal for Suncrest Lake. According to GNIS, there are no other features in Alaska named “Suncrest.” The Alaska Historical Commission (AHC), which serves as the State Names Authority, contacted the following four Native groups for comment: Alexander Creek, Inc.; Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; Eklutna, Inc.; and Knikatnu, Inc. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The AHC recommends approval of the name.

**Taq’ Nust’in Mountain**: summit; elevation 722 m (2,370 ft); 16 km (10 mi) SE of Groundhog Mountain, 16 km (10 mi) SW of Nondalton; the name is Dena’ina for “the one that extends across the timbered lowlands”; Lake and Peninsula Borough, Alaska; Sec 6, T4S, R33W, Seward Mer.; 59°51’19”N, 155°01’03”W; USGS map - Iliamna D-6 1:63,360.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=59.85544&p\\_longi=-155.01746](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=59.85544&p_longi=-155.01746)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS Iliamna D-6 1:63,360

Proponent: Dr. James Kari; Fairbanks, AK

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Taq’ Nust’in Mountain (Dena’ina people)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the Dena’ina name Taq’ Nust’in Mountain for a 722 m (2,370 ft) summit in Lake and Peninsula Borough, just west of the Newhalen River and approximately 16 km (10 mi) northwest of the village of Iliamna. The proponent, a Professor of Linguistics Emeritus at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, reports the name is of Dena’ina origin and means “the one that extends across the timbered lowlands.” As part of its research, the Alaska Historical Commission (AHC) contacted the government of Lake and Peninsula Borough, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The AHC also forwarded the proposal to six Native groups: the Iliamna Village Council; the Newhalen Tribal Council; the Bristol Bay Native Corporation, the Iliamna Natives Limited; the Kijik Corporation; and the Nondalton Tribal Council. Of these, only the Bristol Bay Corporation responded, with a letter of support for the name.

## ARIZONA

**Bell Pass**: gap; in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, 0.5 km (0.3 mi) SE of McDowell Peak; named in association with nearby Bell Road; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 26, T4N, R5E, Gila and Salt River Mer.; 33°39’20”N, 111°48’49”W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.65556&p\\_longi=-111.81361](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.65556&p_longi=-111.81361)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ

Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Bell Pass (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission)

Published: Bell Pass (City of Scottsdale GIS Department, 2007)

Case Summary: This is the first of ten proposals submitted by the Arizona Board on Geographic and Historic Names (AZBGHN), on behalf of the City of Scottsdale. The City, which manages the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, has asked that the ten names, most of which are already used locally, be made official for State and Federal use. The first name, Bell Pass, would apply to a prominent gap located within the McDowell Mountains, between McDowell Peak and Thompson Peak. The name refers to the fact that the gap is clearly visible from the terminus of Bell Road. The City of Scottsdale began to use the name Bell Pass in 2004 and since then it has also been applied to Bell Pass Trail.

The ten proposals have the support of the Mayor of Scottsdale, the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission, the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, the Arizona Mountaineering Club, and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. The AZBGHN also recommends approval of the ten names. In the course of its research, the AZBGHN forwarded the proposals to the following five Tribes, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue: the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Gila River Indian Community, the Ak-Chin Indian Community, and the Tohono O'odham Nation.

**Drinkwater Peak**: summit; elevation 1,193 m (3,914 ft); in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, 0.6 km (0.4 mi) W of McDowell Peak; named for Herbert Drinkwater (1936-1997), Mayor of Scottsdale from 1980 to 1996 and longtime supporter of preservation of the McDowell Mountains; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 27, T4N, R5E, Gila and Salt River Mer.; 33°39'36"N, 111°49'26"W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.66005&p\\_long=-111.82405](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.66005&p_long=-111.82405)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ

Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal, also submitted by the City of Scottsdale, would apply the new commemorative name Drinkwater Peak to an unnamed 1,193 m (3,914 ft) summit in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, just west of McDowell Peak. The name is intended to honor Herb Drinkwater (1936-1997), who served for four terms as Mayor of Scottsdale, from 1980 to 1996. Previously, he was also a city councilman and served on the Scottsdale Development Review Board. He was involved in numerous local and national civic organizations, including the Arizona Heart Institute and the Scottsdale Boys Club, and was president of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns; he was also appointed to the BLM's Phoenix Advisory Council. Known as "Mr. Scottsdale," Mayor Drinkwater was long associated with efforts to protect the McDowell Mountains from development and he supported the City's plans to establish the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. During his tenure, Scottsdale was awarded the honor in 1993 of "Most Livable City." The proponent reports that following the City Council's approval of the name Drinkwater Peak in 2004, it has come into local use.

**Gardeners Wall**: cliff; 500 ft wide by 300 ft high; in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, just W of the East End; originally named in honor of Ray Garner, longtime



area rock climber; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 23, T4N, R5E, Gila and Salt River Mer.; 33°40'53"N, 111°48'28"W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000; Not: Gardener's Wall.  
[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.68139&p\\_longi=-111.80778](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.68139&p_longi=-111.80778)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ

Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Gardeners Wall (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission)

Published: Gardeners Wall (City of Scottsdale GIS Department, 2007; *Climbers' Guide to Central Arizona*, 1981; *Phoenix Rock: a Guide to the Central Arizona Crags*, 1987; *Phoenix Rock II: Central Arizona Granite*, 1996)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Gardeners Wall for a rock formation that is described as being 500 ft wide by 300 ft high. According to the Preservation Planner for the City of Scottsdale, who submitted the proposal, the name has been in local use for approximately 25 years and is published at various rock climbing websites. All evidence suggests the feature was named originally for Ray Garner (d. 1989), a pilot and cinematographer who taught rock climbing classes in the Phoenix area during World War II. He was one of the founders of the Kachinas, an early rock climbing group in the Phoenix area. The proponent reports, "At some point the feature name "Garner" was changed to "Gardener"." During the AZBGHN's discussions, one member expressed concern that the proposed name did not accurately reflect the name of the honoree, but the proponent, who was in attendance at the meeting, noted that the intent was not to honor an individual or family, but to make official a name that already had historic use.

**Hoels Wash:** stream; 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long; in Coconino National Forest, heads at 34°58'56"N, 111°44'31"W, flows WSW through the lower portion of Surveyor Canyon to enter Oak Creek; named for Don Hoel (1913-1983) and his wife Juanita Hoel (1913-1998), who owned property along the stream, where they built rental cabins and operated a grocery and Indian crafts store; Coconino County, Arizona; Sec 4, T18N, R6E and Sec 34, T19N, R6E, Gila and Salt River Mer.; 34°58'42"N, 111°44'49"W; USGS map – Munds Park 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=34.97957&p\\_longi=-111.74697](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=34.97957&p_longi=-111.74697)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=34.98226&p\\_longi=-111.74192](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=34.98226&p_longi=-111.74192)

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Munds Park 1:24,000

Proponent: Tom Gebler; Phoenix, AZ

Administrative area: Coconino National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This new commemorative name, Hoels Wash, is proposed for a 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long tributary of Oak Creek in southwestern Coconino County. The stream also lies within the Coconino National Forest and approximately 11 km (7 mi) north of Sedona. The new name is intended to honor Don Hoel (1913-1983) and his wife Juanita "Nita" Hoel (1913-1998), who in 1945 "purchased land south of the stream that contained a cabin. Mr. Hoel built additional cabins on the property and also ran a grocery store, "Hoel's Indian Shop" featuring Native American

crafts, and a cabin rental business.” The site was long remembered for being “the last store and stop on Highway 89A before climbing north out of [Oak Creek] Canyon towards Flagstaff,” and for many families, it became a popular place for fishing vacations. The Indian crafts and jewelry sold in the Hoel’s shop were well known for their quality and Don Hoel became a recognized authority on Indian art. According to the proponent, the new owners of the Hoel property plan to tear down the remaining structures and create new home sites, “leaving nothing to preserve the memory of this landmark and family.” The intention of this proposal is to “do something to memorialize the location...and leave some landmark that recognizes and remembers Don and Nita and the little cabins that provided great canyon memories for countless visitors over a span of 60 years.”

The Coconino County Board of Supervisors, the Sedona Chamber of Commerce, and an organization called Keep Sedona Beautiful all recommend approval of the name Hoels Wash, as does the Arizona Board on Geographic and Historic Names (AZBGHN). The current owners of Hoel’s Indian Shop, who are the grandchildren of Don and Nita Hoel, also support the naming effort, as does the owner of nearby Oak Creek Lodge. However, the regional office of the U.S. Forest Service has asked that the proposed name not be approved, citing evidence that the stream may already be known locally by a different name. Despite repeated attempts to determine that name, no further information was provided and no other name has been submitted. As part of its research, the AZBGHN forwarded the proposal for Hoels Wash to the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe, all of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

**Horseshoe Ridge**: summit; elevation 750 m (2,459 ft); in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, 2.4 km (1.5 mi) W of McDowell Peak; descriptive name; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 28, T4N, R5E, Gila and Salt River Mer.; 33°39’51”N, 111°50’25”W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.66417&p\\_longi=-111.84028](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.66417&p_longi=-111.84028)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ

Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Horseshoe Ridge (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the descriptive name Horseshoe Ridge for a 750 m (2,459 ft) summit in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, 2.4 km (1.5 mi) west of McDowell Peak. GNIS lists 53 other geographic features in the State named “Horseshoe”, including five in Maricopa County (a mobile home park, a dam, a reservoir, a park, and a heliport). Two other summits in Coconino County are named Horseshoe Hill and Horseshoe Mesa.

**Mesquite Canyon**: valley; 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long; in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, heads just NE of East End at 33°41’12”N, 111°47’47”W, trends NW to a point 1.3 km (0.8 mi) SW of Rock Knob; descriptive name; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 13, T4N, R5E, Gila & Salt River Mer.; 33°41’25”N, 111°47’57”W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.69028&p\\_longi=-111.79917](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.69028&p_longi=-111.79917)

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Proposal: to make official a name in local use  
Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000  
Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ  
Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Mesquite Canyon (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Mesquite Canyon for a 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long valley in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, 1.3 km (0.8 mi) southwest of Rock Knob. The proponent reports that the feature was given the name Mesquite Canyon “before 1995 by an archaeologist working in the area. The name is for the mesquite trees in the valley and also for Hohokam mortars found in the area that were used for grinding mesquite beans.” GNIS lists 43 other geographic features in the State named “Mesquite,” including twelve in Maricopa County; none of these are valleys. There is a valley in Pima County, approximately 212 km (131 mi) from the valley in question, which is also named Mesquite Canyon.

**Morrells Wall**: cliff; 61 m (200 ft) high and 122 m (400 ft) wide; in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, at the N end of East End; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 13, T4N, R5E, Gila & Salt River Mer.; 33°41’08”N, 111°48’07”W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000; Not: Morrell’s Wall.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.68556&p\\_longi=-111.80194](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.68556&p_longi=-111.80194)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use  
Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000  
Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ  
Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Morrells Wall (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission)

Published: Morrells Wall (*A Climber’s Guide to Central Arizona*, 1981; *Phoenix Rock: A Guide to Central Arizona Crags*, 1987; *Phoenix Rock II: Central Arizona Granite*, 1996; [www.rockclimbing.com](http://www.rockclimbing.com))

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Morrells Wall for a 61 m (200 ft) high, 122 m (400 ft) wide cliff in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, at the north end of East End. Although the name is reported to have been in local use for at least 26 years, the proponent was unable to provide any information on the origin of the name. A search of the Internet confirms that area rock climbers use the name, and the proponent also states it was published in *A Climber’s Guide to Central Arizona* (1981); *Phoenix Rock: A Guide to Central Arizona Crags* (1987); and *Phoenix Rock II: Central Arizona Granite* (1996). According to GNIS, there are no other geographic features in the State named “Morrell.”

**Ochoa Wash**: arroyo; 2.4 km (1.5 mi) long; in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, heads 3.2 km (2 mi) N of McDowell Peak at 33°41’17”N, 111°49’05”W, flows N then WNW to a point 2.4 km (1.5 mi) SSE of Troon Mountain; Maricopa County, Arizona; Secs 15&14, T4N, R5E, Gila & Salt River Mer.; 33°41’50”N, 111°49’47”W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.69722&p\\_longi=-111.82972](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.69722&p_longi=-111.82972)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.68803&p\\_longi=-111.81806](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.68803&p_longi=-111.81806)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use

Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ

Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Ochoa Wash (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the new name Ochoa Wash for a 2.4 km (1.5 mi) long arroyo in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, at the north end of the McDowell Mountains. Although the name has not been published on any sources, the proponent reports that the name Ochoa has historical significance in the area, ever since Miguel Ochoa acquired a land patent along the arroyo in 1924. The Ochoa family ran cattle in the area for many years; an early township map shows "Refugio Ochoa" at the head of the arroyo. GNIS lists three other geographic features in Arizona named "Ochoa," including a summit named Mount Ochoa, approximately 32 km (20 mi) from the arroyo in question.

**Piestewa Peak:** summit; elevation 795 m (2,608 ft); in the Phoenix Mountains Park and Recreation Area/Piestewa Mountain Park and the City of Phoenix, NW of Paradise Valley; named for U.S. Army Pfc. Lori Piestewa (1979-2003), reported to be the first American Indian woman killed in combat when she died in the Iraqi conflict; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 2, T2N, R3E, Gila & Salt River Meridian; 33°32'50"N, 112°01'15"W; USGS map – Sunnyslope 1:24,000; Not: Phoenix Peak, Squaw Peak, Squaw Tit Mountain.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.54725&p\\_longi=-112.02092](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.54725&p_longi=-112.02092)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory and to name a feature in commemoration

Map: USGS Sunnyslope 1:24,000

Proponent: Gov. Janet Napolitano; Phoenix, AZ

Administrative area: Phoenix Mountains Park and Recreation Area

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Peak (FID 11741)

Local Usage: Piestewa Peak (City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department;

Published: Piestewa Peak (various Phoenix area hiking and visitor guides; Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records; Arizona Department of Real Estate, 2005; Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, 2005; Arizona Veterans Service Advisory Commission, 2007; Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2006; City of Goodyear), Squaw Peak (USGS 1954, 1978, 1988; General Land Office survey 1902-03; Maricopa County map 1907; *Arizona Place Names*, 1935, 1960; Maricopa County highway map, 1937; *Arizona Names: X Marks the Place*, 1983)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change officially the name of Squaw Peak, the highest point in the Phoenix Mountains, to Piestewa Peak. The change, submitted by the Governor of Arizona, is intended to eliminate a name considered by many to be derogatory, and also to honor U.S. Army Pfc. Lori Piestewa (b.1979), a Hopi Indian woman who died in the Iraqi conflict on March 23, 2003. Pfc. Piestewa is believed to be the first American Indian woman killed in combat.

According to Will C. Barnes' *Arizona Place Names* (1935), the name Squaw Peak is believed to date back approximately 100 years, having been "named by Dr. O.A. Turney about 1910."

However, unpublished field notes from a General Land Office survey of 1902-03 also referred to "Squaw Peak"; O.A. Turney was listed as the chainman for this survey. A 1929 report entitled *Prehistoric Irrigation* quotes Turney, an early Phoenix archaeologist and city engineer, as saying, "When making topographic maps in the U.S. Geological Survey, the writer gave names to several mountains, among them one on the north boundary of the valley which seemed hardly large enough for a full-sized buck mountain, so named it Squaw Peak." A 1958 article by noted Phoenix historian James Barney reported that some called the summit Squaw Tit Mountain, while others referred to it as Phoenix Peak. Barney cited a letter written in 1952 by another local resident that read, "The senseless effort to change the name of "Phoenix Peak" --- a notable landmark to the north of the City of Phoenix --- was started by ignorant and newly arrived land speculators and is still being continued. At one time early day cowboys and prospectors called the sharp-topped peak "Squaw Tit Mountain" --- but the later pioneer settlers of the Salt River Valley never accepted that name and called it "Phoenix Peak," a much more decent and appropriate designation."

There have been several efforts in recent years to rename Squaw Peak, as many consider the word derogatory to American Indian women, but none have been successful. A proposal for Iron Mountain was submitted in the late 1990's but was withdrawn after the Arizona Board on Geographic and Historic Names (AZBGHN) determined the proposed name might have been applied historically to a different feature. Another proposal, to change the name to Phoenix Peak, was rejected by the AZBGHN after the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona (ICTA) expressed concerns that it had not been involved in the renaming effort. The ITCA agreed the summit should be renamed, but suggested a name of significance to the American Indian community would be more appropriate.

Shortly after Pfc. Piastewa's death, a columnist with *The Arizona Republic* suggested in an editorial that the summit could be renamed in her honor. The Governor agreed, and on April 17, 2003, the AZBGHN voted 5-1 to approve the change. Although there was considerable local support for the renaming effort, many others were critical of the means by which the process was handled. The AZBGHN has long followed the policies of the BGN, including the requirement that an intended honoree be deceased five years before a geographic feature can be renamed in his/her honor. However, it was felt that there was an overriding need to eliminate the existing name and that the guidelines should be waived in this case. After two hours of public testimony and discussion, and after determining that its bylaws were non-binding, the AZBGHN decided the change was warranted. The *Arizona Republic*, in its coverage immediately following the decision, stated "[A representative of the Governor's office] argued that a waiting period was not needed because the board had agreed more than five years ago that the name was offensive but just hadn't found an appropriate replacement."

Those who expressed support for the change at the AZBGHN meeting were the Mayor of Phoenix and one of the Maricopa County Supervisors; the State had also received letters of support from the Hualapai Nation, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, as well as from the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, which represents the 17 Tribes located through the State. The AZBGHN, which also has jurisdiction over road and highway names in the State, also voted to rename Squaw Peak Parkway (State Route 51) to Piastewa Peak Parkway. At a meeting one month later, the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department voted to change the name of Squaw Peak Park to Phoenix Mountains Park and Recreation Area. In July 2003, the AZBGHN agreed to revisit its decision to approve Piastewa Peak, and by a vote of 5-1, reaffirmed its approval of the change.

Following the AZBGHN's decision, the BGN received approximately 90 e-mails on the issue. Of these, 18 were in support of the change, while 44 were opposed. The remainder were from

individuals who did not express a specific opinion for or against the new name but voiced concerns regarding the Governor's and the AZBGHN's actions; many asked that the BGN not proceed in haste and repeat the State's actions. Many also felt that the decision to change the name was made without the input of Arizona's citizens and that a more comprehensive and deliberate approach was needed. Several agreed that the BGN's policy of waiting five years was warranted and that the decision to change the name to Piestewa Peak had been made in the emotion of the moment.

In November 2003, the Governor's office submitted the proposal for Piestewa Peak to the BGN, asking that the five-year waiting period be waived and that the BGN proceed with its vote. However, the BGN voted not to do this, offering instead to hold the proposal until the waiting period had passed. More recently, as the fifth anniversary of Pfc. Piestewa's death approaches, the BGN has received a number of new e-mails. Of the approximately 30 submitted to date, 19 are opposed to the change, insisting that the name Squaw Peak is in longtime local use and should not be changed, while two are in support. Once again, several expressed concern regarding the AZBGHN decision and asked that the BGN reject the change in protest of the State's actions. A search of the Internet suggests that most local hiking and Phoenix visitor websites have begun to refer to the summit as "Piestewa Peak (formerly Squaw Peak)," while many State agencies are using the new name.

In April 2007, the BGN received a new proposal, to change Squaw Peak to Swilling Peak, in honor of Jack Swilling (1830-1878), one of the original founders of Phoenix. This proposal was placed on Review List 395. The AZBGHN rejected this proposal, reaffirming once again its decision to support Piestewa Peak.

**Sven Slab**: cliff; 91 m (300 ft) wide and 61 m (200 ft) high; in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, at the NE end of East End, 1.1 km (0.7 mi) SW of Rock Knob; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 13, T4N, R5E, Gila & Salt River Mer.; 33°41'30"N, 111°47'42"W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.69167&p\\_longi=-111.795](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.69167&p_longi=-111.795)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ

Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Sven Slab (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission; Arizona Mountaineering Club)

Published: Sven Slab (*Weekend Rock Arizona: Trad and Sport Routes from 5.0 to 5.10a*, 2006; *Phoenix Rock: A Guide to Central Arizona Crags*, 1987;

[www.MountainProject.com](http://www.MountainProject.com); [www.rockclimbing.com](http://www.rockclimbing.com); [www.thecrag.com](http://www.thecrag.com))

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Sven Slab for a 91 m (300 ft) wide, 61 m (200 ft) high cliff wall in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, at the north end of the McDowell Mountains. According to the proponent, the name is widely used within the hiking and rock climbing community; the name came into use because Sven power saws were used to cut a trail to the base of the wall. A search of the Internet yielded numerous references to the name on rock climbing websites, and it is also used by the Arizona Mountaineering Club. According to GNIS, there are no other geographic features in Arizona named "Sven." The proposal for Sven Slab has the support of the Mayor of Scottsdale, the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission, the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, the Arizona Mountaineering Club, and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. During the AZBGHN's discussions, one member questioned whether the

State should be endorsing a name that appears to be commercial. Citing the proponent's claim that the name was already in widespread use, the AZBGHN voted 5-2 to approve the name.

**Toms Thumb**: pillar; 43 m (140 ft) high; in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, at the NE end of East End, 1.1 km (0.7 mi) SW of Rock Knob; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 13, T4N, R5E, Gila & Salt River Mer.; 33°41'30"N, 111°47'42"W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.69167&p\\_longi=-111.795](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.69167&p_longi=-111.795)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ

Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Toms Thumb (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission; Arizona Mountaineering Club)

Published: Toms Thumb (*Phoenix Rock: A Guide to Central Arizona Crags*, 1987; [www.MountainProject.com](http://www.MountainProject.com))

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Toms Thumb for a 43 m (140 ft) high pillar in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, at the north end of the McDowell Mountains. A description at the Mountain Project's website reads: "Tom's Thumb [sic] is a prominent 140-foot plug of desert granite that perches atop the McDowell Mountains ridgeline. It is visible from miles in all directions. Originally called "The Dork" by the old time Phoenix climbers, it was rechristened Tom's Thumb in honor of climber Tom Kreuser back in the day." The proposal for Toms Thumb has the support of the Mayor of Scottsdale, the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission, the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, the Arizona Mountaineering Club, and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. The AZBGHN also recommends approval of the name.

**Windgate Pass**: gap; in McDowell Sonoran Preserve, in the McDowell Mountains, 1 km (0.6 mi) N of McDowell Peak; Maricopa County, Arizona; Sec 26, T4N, R5E, Gila & Salt River Mer.; 33°40'04"N, 111°48'53"W; USGS map - McDowell Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.6677&p\\_longi=-111.81472](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.6677&p_longi=-111.81472)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS McDowell Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Donald Meserve; Scottsdale, AZ

Administrative area: McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Windgate Pass (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission)

Published: Windgate Pass (City of Scottsdale; Scottsdale Convention and Visitors' Bureau; McDowell Sonoran Conservancy; Mountain Bike Association of Arizona; McDowell Sonoran Land Trust)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Windgate Pass for a gap in the McDowell Mountains, within the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. According to the proponent, a local equestrian was riding through the gap approximately 20 years ago when he reached a cattle fence and gate in the pass. Hearing the wind blow the gate against its post, he is said to have remarked "that sounds like a wind gate." According to GNIS, there are no other geographic features in Arizona named "Windgate" or "Wind Gate."



## CALIFORNIA

**Devils Anvil Peak**: summit; elevation 484 m (1,587 ft); located 1.4 km (0.9 mi) WSW of Bottle Peak, 8 km (5 mi) NE of the center of Escondido; descriptive name; San Diego County, California; Sec 6, T12S, R1W, San Bernardino Mer.; 33°09'26"N, 117°01'08"W; USGS map – Valley Center 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.15711&p\\_longi=-117.0188](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.15711&p_longi=-117.0188)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS Valley Center 1:24,000

Proponent: John S. Pomeroy; Escondido, CA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Devils Anvil Peak (local residents)

Published: Devils Anvil Peak (*Mini-Guide to Historic Escondido*, 1984)

Case Summary: This proposal, for Devils Anvil Peak, is the first of three submitted by a retired USGS geologist living in Escondido. The proponent, who is also a member of the Escondido Citizens' Ecology Committee, is asking the BGN to make official names that are used locally to refer to three summits overlooking the east side of the city of Escondido. He reports that the name Devils Anvil Peak applies to the most southerly of the three summits, which lie in close proximity and in a north-south orientation just west of Bottle Peak. The name appeared on a map in Frances Ryan's 1984 publication *A Mini-Guide to Historic Escondido*; the corresponding entry reads, "The anvil-shaped rock on a mountain top in east Escondido valley is huge --- a four horse team and wagon could turn around on it." This publication does not indicate why the word Devil is included in the name, although the land grant in which most of Escondido is located has been named Rancho Rincon del Diablo since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. This proposal has the support of the Executive Director of the Escondido History Center.

**Old Rocky Peak**: summit; elevation 504 m (1,653 ft); located 1.4 km (0.9 mi) W of Bottle Peak, 8 km (5 mi) NE of the center of Escondido; descriptive name; San Diego County, California; Sec 6, T12S, R1W, San Bernardino Mer.; 33°09'35"N, 117°01'09"W; USGS map – Valley Center 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.15982&p\\_longi=-117.01912](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.15982&p_longi=-117.01912)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS Valley Center 1:24,000

Proponent: John S. Pomeroy; Escondido, CA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Old Rocky Peak (local residents)

Published: Old Rocky Peak (*Mini-Guide to Historic Escondido*, 1984)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Old Rocky Peak for a 504 m (1,653 ft) summit overlooking the city of Escondido and just west of Bottle Peak. It also was submitted by a local resident who reports that the name has been in local use for many years and that it is also was mentioned in *A Mini-Guide to Historic Escondido* [ibid.]. This proposal has the support of the Executive Director of the Escondido History Center.

**Powers Peak**: summit; elevation 1,761 m (5,778 ft); in Sequoia National Forest, 2.7 km (1.7 mi) NNE of Kernville, 1.3 km (0.8 mi) WNW of Tunnel Spring; named for Robert L. “Bob” Powers (1924-2002), local historian, farmer and rancher, and prominent member of the local community; Kern County, California; Sec 2, T25S, R33E, Mount Diablo Mer.; 35°46’46”N, 118°24’21”W ; USGS map – Kernville 1:24,000.

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=35.77944&lon=-118.40573&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Kernville 1:24,000

Proponent: Larry M. Holochwest; Lake Isabella, CA

Administrative area: Sequoia National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name **Powers Peak** is proposed for a 1,761 m (5,778 ft) summit in northeastern Kern County, 2.7 km (1.7 mi) north-northeast of Kernville. The summit also lies within the Sequoia National Forest. The proposal is intended to honor Robert L. “Bob” Powers (1924-2002), a local historian, farmer and rancher, and prominent member of the local community. According to an online biography of Powers, “[He] was a fifth generation Kern Valley resident and descendant of one of the original South Fork area’s pioneer ranching families. During his life time, he wrote nine books regarding the settlement of the Kern Valley including the historical local and western life of Native Americans, cowboys, and miners. His books are used as a foundation for local history and have become an integral part of the Kern Valley educational school curriculum. He was considered one of the leading historians in Kern County with a reputation for original research and accuracy to record and preserve the history of the Kern Valley. Powers was the Curator and on the Board of Directors for the Kern River Valley Historical Museum and authored a weekly history column for one of the local Kern Valley newspapers. He shared his knowledge of the area by giving lectures, slide presentations, taking students on field trips and assisted in teaching local history at Cerro Coso Community College and at all the local schools. Over the years he was the recipient of the Glenn F. Meyers Award by the Three Forest Interpretive Association for his writings about the Sequoia National Forest. He received a Kern County Board of Supervisors Resolution commending him for his accomplishments. He was presented the Kawaiisu Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution History Award. In 1996, Powers was recognized with the “Man of the Year” award by the Kern River Valley Exchange Club. A bronze plaque was erected at the Kern River Valley Museum in honor of his many contributions as an author and historian by E.Clampus Vitus and the Kern River Valley Historical Society.”

Included with the proposal for **Powers Peak** were letters of support from Congressman Kevin McCarthy; California Assemblyman Roy Ashburn; the Kern County Board of Supervisors; the Kern River Valley Historical Society; the Monache Intertribal Association; the Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce; Kern River Valley Revitalization, Inc.; a local farmer/rancher; the Kawaiisu Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; America Lives (Gene Verbeet); and several teachers and representatives of the Kern County School District who report that they have long used Powers’ books to teach local history.

**Tombstone Peak**: summit; elevation 527 m (1,727 ft); located 1.6 km (1 mi) W of Bottle Peak, 8 km (5 mi) NE of the center of Escondido; descriptive name; San Diego County, California; Sec 6, T12S, R1W, San Bernardino Mer.; 33°09’45”N, 117°01’10”W; USGS map – Valley Center 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=33.16257&p\\_longi=-117.01951](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.16257&p_longi=-117.01951)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS Valley Center 1:24,000

Proponent: John S. Pomeroy; Escondido, CA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Tombstone Peak (local residents)

Published: Tombstone Peak (*Mini-Guide to Historic Escondido*, 1984)

Case Summary: This is the third of three proposals submitted by a retired geologist living in Escondido, to make official locally-used names for three summits west of Bottle Peak. According to the proponent, the name Tombstone Peak applies to the most northerly peak and at 527 m (1,727 ft) the highest of the three. The name was also included in *A Mini-Guide to Historic Escondido* [ibid.], which states, "Two granite boulders piercing the sky gave that mountain top the name Tombstone." This proposal has the support of the Executive Director of the Escondido History Center.

## COLORADO

**Braddock Peak**: summit; elevation 3,645 m (11,957 ft); located in the Colorado State Forest, 2.1 km (1.3 mi) ENE of Seven Utes Mountain, 2.1 km (1.3 mi) W of Snow Lake, 2.7 km (1.7 mi) N of the boundary of the Routt National Forest/Never Summer Wilderness; named for Dr. William A. Braddock (1929-2003), Professor of Geological Sciences at the University of Colorado from 1958 to 1994; Jackson County, Colorado; Sec 22, T6N, R76W, Sixth Principal Mer.; 40°28'48"N, 105°54'46"W; USGS map – Mount Richthofen 1:24,000.

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.48&lon=-105.91278&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Mount Richthofen 1:24,000

Proponent: William Braddock Memorial Working Committee; Denver, CO

Administrative area: Colorado State Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None

Local Usage: None found

Published: None

Case Summary: This proposal, to apply the new name Braddock Peak to an unnamed summit in Jackson County, is intended to commemorate Dr. William Braddock (1929-2003), Professor of Geological Sciences at the University of Colorado. The summit lies within the proclamation boundary of Routt National Forest, but in an area managed by the Colorado Department of Natural Resources as part of the Colorado State Forest. Dr. Braddock and his students geologically mapped over 750 square miles of the northern Front Range, including the summit proposed to be named for him. He was the principal author of *The Geologic Map of Rocky Mountain National Park*. Following his retirement, Dr. Braddock taught the lay public about the geology in and around Rocky Mountain National Park. According to the proponent, his enthusiasm, caring, and objective style influenced the lives and careers of many. There is another feature in the State that is named Braddock Flats which is located in Summit County, 65 miles south-southwest of this unnamed summit. The Jackson County Commissioners, the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, the Colorado State Geologist, the Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Nature Association, the

Regional Director of the USGS in Denver, and the William Braddock Memorial Working Committee all support this proposal.

**Mount Crestone**: summit; elevation 4,317 m (14,165 ft); in Rio Grande National Forest, in the Sangre de Cristo Range, 8 km (5 mi) E of the community of Crestone; named in association with the nearby community of Crestone; Saguache County, Colorado; 37°58'47"N, 105°36'09"W; USGS map – Crestone Peak 1:24,000; Not: Frustum Peak, Haystack Baldy, Kit Carson Mountain (BGN 1970), Kit Carson Peak (BGN 1906).

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=37.9797219&p\\_longi=-105.6025089&fid=204778](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=37.9797219&p_longi=-105.6025089&fid=204778)

Proposal: to change a name to eliminate confusion and to replace a name believed by some to be objectionable

Map: USGS Crestone Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Keno Menechino; Crestone, CO

Administrative area: Great Sand Dunes National Park

Previous BGN Action: Kit Carson Mountain (BGN 1970), Kit Carson Peak (BGN 1906)

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Kit Carson Mountain (FID 204778)

Local Usage: Kit Carson Mountain (hikers, mountain climbers)

Published: Kit Carson Mountain (USGS 1967, 1982, 1988; peakbagger.com)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change officially the name of Kit Carson Mountain to Mount Crestone. The summit in question has an elevation of 4,318 m (14,165 ft) and is located in the Sangre de Cristo Range in western Saguache County. It also lies within the Rio Grande National Forest. The proponent of the name change, who is a resident of the nearby community of Crestone and a local newspaper reporter, states that local residents have long felt the existing name is confusing because most of them refer to the peak as Crestone Peak, while the name Kit Carson Mountain refers to a different summit “behind Crestone Peak.” He claims the U.S. Geological Survey “got this all wrong years ago and never reversed the mistake.” He adds, “The people of this town are not happy with the wrong names being used and refuse to call them what they officially are today. The current Kit Carson Mountain is the main mountain above town, which can be viewed from all over town (as the official Crestone Peak cannot be). Crestone was named after this mountain.” He adds, “When out of town hikers and mountain climbers visit and ask locals about conditions and terrain up on Kit Carson Mountain, they are instead told about conditions and terrain up on Crestone Peak, and vice versa. The terrain on these two mountains [is] a bit different... [and] wrong info in this case can kill.”

Along with his application, the proponent provided an undated Forest Service sketch map that he notes shows “Crestone Pk.” in the foreground at an elevation of 14,291 feet, with “Kit Carson Mt.” behind at 14,100 feet. Because of the widespread use of the name Crestone in the area, he suggests the new name for Kit Carson Mountain should be Mount Crestone rather than Crestone Peak, as that name already applies to another summit just one mile further to the southwest. It should also be noted that Crestone Peak and Crestone Needle are two of the named summits that collectively make up Crestone Peaks. Each of these three names was the subject of a 1969 BGN decision, which was made in order to clarify the singular vs. plural forms of the various names in the area.

The summit now proposed to be renamed from Kit Carson Mountain to Mount Crestone was originally named Kit Carson Peak in a 1906 BGN decision, but was given its present name in 1970. The 1970 decision made clear that the name applied to the entire mile-long mountain and not just to one of its peaks. Finally, two of the three most prominent peaks atop Kit Carson Mountain have been the subject of more recent BGN decisions: Challenger Point was named in 1985 and Columbia Point in 2003 (a third proposal, to name a sub-peak Galaxy Peak, was recently withdrawn). The

proponent is also asking that the highest peak atop the proposed “Mount Crestone” should be named Tranquility Peak (q.v.); this peak does not currently have an official name of its own.

The proponent also cites another reason why he believes the name Kit Carson Mountain should be eliminated; the individual for whom the summit and nine other features in the State were named is not popular in the community of Crestone. He notes, “They feel that Kit Carson was a war criminal, not a war hero. The Native Americans, Buddhists and Hindus in the area seem very united on this, and they represent a large group of the population.”

Included in the 1969 Crestone Peak case file is a letter, dated 1947, from the Colorado Mountain Club (CMC) discussing a rumor they’d heard, via the Forest Service, that “a resident of the town of Crestone” wanted to rename Kit Carson Peak to Crestone Peak, and that the CMC wished to go on record strongly opposing the idea. They noted, “We believe that [t]here are more mountaineers who know the entire range rather than a small group of local residents who know only the peak nearest to them.” In 1951, another letter was received, also from the CMC and also opposing any efforts to change the name of Crestone Peak (the 14,294 foot peak to the south) to Kit Carson Peak. A petition signed by members of the Sangre de Cristo Club opposing the latter idea was also included, as were several letters from local residents, schoolchildren, and the San Luis Valley Travel Association. In both cases, the BGN responded that no such proposals had been received but that all parties would be notified if anything was submitted. It appears nothing further came of either of the suggestions.

More recent research conducted by an archivist with the Colorado Mountain Club reveals that the 1878 Wheeler Survey referred to the “unnamed” peak by the descriptive name Frustum Peak. The word “frustum” refers to “a pyramid with the top chopped off,” which the author notes could refer to Kit Carson Mountain but more likely to Humboldt Peak.

**Tranquility Peak**: summit; elevation 4,317 m (14,165 ft); in Rio Grande National Forest, in the Sangre de Cristo Range, at the highest point of Kit Carson Mountain (proposed Mount Crestone); the name reflects the tranquility found in the citizens of the community below the summit; Saguache County, Colorado; 37°58’47”N, 105°36’09”W; USGS map – Crestone Peak 1:24,000; Not: Kit Carson Peak.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=37.97957&p\\_longi=-105.60271](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.97957&p_longi=-105.60271)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Crestone Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Keno Menechino; Crestone, CO

Administrative area: Rio Grande National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Kit Carson Peak (mountain climbers and hikers)

Published: Kit Carson Peak (Hayden Survey; USFS 1964, 1967; General Land Office 1934; Colorado State Highway map, 1969; Colorado Mountain Club 1923; Ormes 1952, 1955, 1970; mountain climbing and hiking websites)

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Tranquility Peak to the highest peak atop Kit Carson Mountain, which is proposed to be renamed Mount Crestone (q.v.). The 4,317 m (14,165 ft) summit lies between the two other named peaks, Challenger Point (BGN 1985) and Columbia Point (BGN 2003). The proponent of Tranquility Peak, a resident of the nearby community of Crestone and a reporter with the local newspaper, suggests the name would be appropriate as it describes the tranquility found in the citizens of Crestone, the community that sits below the peak. Prior to 1906, the name Kit Carson Peak was the official name of the larger



feature, but in that year, the BGN voted to approve a change in the generic from “Peak” to “Mountain” so that the name would more accurately refer to the whole feature not just to one specific peak. Although the 14,165 foot peak in question is officially unnamed, there are numerous older maps, plus mountain climbing and hiking guides and several websites, which identify it as Kit Carson Peak. These range from a Colorado Mountain Club report published in 1923, to a General Land Office map from 1934 and Forest Service maps published in the 1960’s. There are no other geographic features in Colorado named “Tranquility.”

## CONNECTICUT

**Skoog Brook**: stream; 3.2 km (2 mi) long; in the Town of Andover, heads 1.6 km (1 mi) SW of Utley Hill at 41°41’12”N, 72°20’52”W, flows N to enter the S end of Andover Lake; named for Henry Skoog (1913-1977), longtime property owner and active member of the community; Tolland County, Connecticut; 41°42’48”N, 72°21’18”W; USGS map – Columbia 1:24,000;.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.7134&lon=-72.35499&size=1&u=4&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.68665&lon=-72.3479&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Columbia 1:24,000

Proponent: Astrid Skoog Belanger; Columbia, CT

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Skoog Brook is proposed for a 3.2 km (2 mi) long stream that flows into the southern end of Andover Lake in the Town of Andover. The proposal is intended to honor the proponent’s father, Henry Skoog (1913-1977), who after moving to Andover in 1945 became an active member of the community. Employed for many years as a milkman, Mr. Skoog also operated an ice cream business in the area. For many years, the Skoog family’s house was situated on the shore of Andover Lake, alongside the unnamed stream. The Andover Lake Property Owners Association and the Andover Lake Management Association both have no objection to the proposal. The Town of Andover Board of Selectmen supports the name. A petition signed by 544 area residents who support the proposal was also included.

## ILLINOIS

**Branham Creek**: stream; 8.2 km (5.1 mi) long; heads at 40°46’15”N, 89°27’29”W, flows NW to enter Blue Creek 3.2 km (2 mi) upstream of its confluence with Peoria Lake; named for evangelist William Branham (d.1965); Woodford County, Illinois; 40°49’13”N, 89°30’36”W; USGS map – Spring Bay, IL 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.8202&lon=-89.51041&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.77077&lon=-89.45814&datum=nad27&u=6&layer=DRG&size=1&s=50>

Proponent: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Spring Bay 1:24,000

Proponent: Michelle Adamson; Metamora, IL

Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: No record  
Local Usage: None found  
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Branham Creek is proposed for an 8.2 km (5.1 mi) long tributary of Blue Creek in Germantown Hills in Woodford County. It was submitted by a local resident, who suggests the name would be an appropriate way to honor Christian evangelist William Branham (1909-1965). The proponent also reports that she and her family hope to name their newly-established church “Branham Creek Independent Church” and so naming the stream that runs behind their house would help that effort. She notes that her church is closely affiliated with William Branham’s ministry.

**Upper Salt Fork:** stream; 35 km (22 mi) long; heads 3.2 km (2 mi) W of Ludlow at 40°22’20”N, 88°09’48”W, flows generally E, S and SE to enter Salt Fork 14 km (9 mi) ENE of Urbana; Champaign County, Illinois; Tps22-20N, Rgs9-10E, Third Principal Mer.; 40°09’09”N, 88°01’55”W; USGS map – Flatville 1:24,000 (mouth of feature); Not: Salt Fork, Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.1525&p\\_longi=-88.03194](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.1525&p_longi=-88.03194)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.37211&p\\_longi=-88.16328](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.37211&p_longi=-88.16328)

Proposal: name change to more accurately describe the feature

Map: USGS Flatville 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: Morris W. Leighton; Urbana, IL & Clark Bullard; Champaign, IL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch (FID 420173)

Local Usage: Upper Salt Fork (Upper Salt Fork Drainage District, 2007)

Published: Salt Fork (USGS 1932, 1939/51; Atlas of State of Illinois, 1876), Salt Fork of the Vermilion River (USGS 1924/27), Spoon River (USGS 1906, 1918), Upper Salt Fork (USGS 1984), Upper Salt Fork Ditch (USGS 1985), Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch (USGS 1957, 1963, 1968; Illinois Environmental Protection Agency 2005; Riparian Wildlife Habitat report, 2001; Sierra Club Prairie Club, 2007; IlliniPundit.com, 2007); Upper Salt Fork River (EPA 2007; Prairie Rivers Network, 2007; IlliniPundit.com, 2007),

Case Summary: This proposal is to change officially the name and feature type of Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch to Upper Salt Fork. The two individuals proposing the change, one of whom is Chief Emeritus of the Illinois State Geological Survey and the other a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, believe the existing name should be changed because it is “cumbersome and complex” and because “it fails to relate to the parent stream, the Salt Fork.” They also note that usage over the years has been “consistently inconsistent,” ranging from Salt Fork of the Vermilion River on USGS topographic maps published in 1924, to simply Salt Fork on USGS maps from the period 1932 to 1951; to Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch from 1957 on. Another USGS map, published in 1984, labeled the feature Upper Salt Fork, as proposed. A second proposal would change the name of the Saline Branch Drainage Ditch to West Salt Fork (q.v.).

The proponents of the name change object to the use of the term Drainage Ditch, which typically refers to a canal, whereas the features in question are “natural streams that for the most part follow the initial stream courses except for minor straightening in places.” They add “the current

names...fail to recognize their multi-use purposes (in addition to drainage), e.g. fishing, swimming, boating, water quality improvement, wildlife habitat, etc.” Finally, they add that “the public perception of a “Drainage Ditch” is different from that of a stream. The former is not an attractive or pleasing term. The [proposed name] also follow the initial intent in the early naming of the streams.”

A search of the Internet indicates the name Upper Salt Fork Drainage Ditch is used by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Sierra Club Prairie Club, and it was also published in a 2001 Riparian Wildlife Habitat report. The Environmental Protection Agency refers to the feature as the Upper Salt Fork River. The Prairie Rivers Network, in an editorial in the Champaign News Gazette, discussed “the Upper Salt Fork River drainage controversy.” This proposed change has the support of several local residents, and well as the President of the Board of Directors of the Prairie River Network and the Illinois State Geographic Names Authority.

**Ward Branch:** stream; 12 km (7.5 mi) long; heads in South Wheatland Township at 39°45’26”N, 88°59’30”W, flows N then NE then N into Wheatland Township to enter the Sangamon River just S of the City of Decatur; named for the Ward family, one of the earliest settlers of Macon County; Macon County, Illinois; Secs 22,21,28,29,32&33, T16N, R2E and Secs 4,9&8, T15N, R2E, Third Principal Mer.; 39°49’52”N, 88°58’21”W; USGS map – Decatur 1:24,000; Not: Spring Creek.  
[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=39.8311481&p\\_longi=-88.9725782&fid=418932](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=39.8311481&p_longi=-88.9725782&fid=418932)

Proposal: to change a name to restore its historical name

Map: USGS Decatur 1:24,000

Proponent: Roger Peterson; Decatur, IL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Spring Creek (FID 418932)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Spring Creek (USGS 1933, 1958, 1985, 1998; Illinois State Board of Elections district voting map, 2008), Ward’s Branch (South Wheatland Township Highway Commissioners meeting, 1900)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change officially the name of Spring Creek, a tributary of the Sangamon River in Macon County, to Ward Branch. Although the name Spring Creek has appeared on Federal maps since at least 1933, the proponent, a local resident, reports that prior to the 1920’s, the stream was known locally as Ward’s Branch [sic]. He does not know exactly when or why the name was changed, and there is no evidence the BGN was involved. He provided a copy of the minutes of a May 1900 meeting of the South Wheatland Township Highway Commissioners, in which the stream is referred to as Ward Branch. He notes that the Ward family was one of the first to settle in Macon County, along the south side of the Sangamon River, in the 1820’s. The aforementioned township minutes also noted John Ward’s election as township president. In addition to the stream in question, there are two other streams in Macon County named Spring Creek, including one on the same USGS topographic map and within the City of Decatur. The proponent of this change did not mention the other features of the same name.

**West Salt Fork:** stream; 37 km (23 mi) long; heads 2.1 km (1.3 mi) NNE of Thomasboro at 40°15’58”N, 88°10’27”W, flows generally SSW to Urbana then E to enter Salt Fork 0.5 km (0.3 mi) NW of St. Joseph; Champaign County, Illinois; Tps21-19N, Rgs9-10E, Third Principal Mer.; 40°07’02”N, 88°03’06”W; USGS map – Saint Joseph 1:24,000 (mouth of feature); Not: Saline Branch Drainage Ditch, West Branch Salt Fork.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.11719&p\\_longi=-88.05189](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.11719&p_longi=-88.05189)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.26636&p\\_longi=-88.17421](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.26636&p_longi=-88.17421)

Proposal: name change to more accurately describe the feature

Map: USGS Saint Joseph 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: Morris W. Leighton; Urbana, IL & Clark Bullard; Champaign, IL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Saline Branch Drainage Ditch (FID 417889)

Local Usage: Saline Branch Drainage Ditch (local and State agencies)

Published: Saline Branch (USGS 1984), Saline Branch Ditch (USGS 1985), Saline Branch Drainage Ditch (USGS 1957, 1968, 1970/75, 1988, 1998; U.S. Attorney's Office/Central District of Illinois, 2007; Riparian Wildlife Habitat Evaluation, 2001; Nationwide Urban Runoff Project, 1984; Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 2007; Champaign County highway map, 1981; City of Urbana Planning and Economic Development Division, 2001), Saline Branch Salt Fork (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 2005), West Branch (USGS 1932, 1939, 1946/51)

Case Summary: This is the second of two proposals that would change the names and feature types of two linear water features in Champaign County. Although the name Saline Branch Drainage Ditch has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1957, the proponents report that the name is misleading and cumbersome and should be changed to West Salt Fork. They suggest the use of "Drainage Ditch" is particularly objectionable because the feature is predominantly a natural one, following the original course of the stream over most of its length, having been only straightened and deepened in a few places to facilitate drainage. They also believe the name "Saline" causes people to question the salinity and therefore the safety of the water for both recreational and drinking purposes. USGS maps published prior to 1957 labeled the feature simply West Branch, while even earlier ones, dated 1906 and 1918, labeled it Salt Fork. The 1876 *Atlas of the State of Illinois* (Warner and Beers) applied the name Branch of Salt Fork.

A Domestic Geographic Name Report, completed by the USGS Mapping Center in 1970 but never submitted to the BGN, noted that local usage was inconsistent, with some referring to it as Saline Branch Drainage Ditch and others using the variant name West Branch Salt Fork. The fieldman did note that the preference was for Saline Branch Drainage Ditch as that was the name used by the USGS Water Resources Division, the Champaign-Urbana Sanitary District, the Urbana City Planning Commission, the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, and others. He also described the feature as "a perennial stream." USGS maps published in the mid-1980's labeled the feature as both Saline Branch and Saline Branch Ditch.

A search of the Internet shows that the predominant usage today is for Saline Branch Drainage Ditch, ranging from the U.S. Attorney's Office/Central District of Illinois, to a U.S. Forest Service Riparian Wildlife Habitat Evaluation (2001), a Nationwide Urban Runoff Project (1984), and the City of Urbana Planning and Economic Development Division. The majority of these refer to the recent settlement of a case against a local power plant that had discharged wastewater into the local sewer system, killing 100,000 fish in the Saline Branch Drainage Ditch. One online report by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency refers to the feature as Saline Branch Salt Fork. According to the proponents, the proposed name West Salt Fork is short and precise, it retains the original intent of the historical name, and it eliminates much of the confusion surrounding the current name. This proposed change has the support of several local residents, and well as the President of the Board of Directors of the Prairie River Network and the Illinois State Geographic Names Authority.

## IOWA

**Theisen Creek**: stream; 3.2 km (2 mi) long; in Prairie Creek Township, heads at 42°21'13"N, 90°48'36"W, flows S to enter Prairie Creek 2.7 km (1.7 mi) NE of Bernard; named for LaVern Theisen (1921-1958), whose family farmed the property along the stream beginning in 1948; Dubuque County, Iowa; Secs 23,14&11, T78N, R1E, Fifth Principal Mer.; 42°19'44"N, 90°48'27"W; USGS map – Bernard 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=42.32901&lon=-90.80744&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=l&s=50>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=42.35371&lon=-90.80999&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Bernard 1:24,000

Proponent: Martin Ahrndt; Grand Mound, IA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new commemorative name Theisen Creek is proposed for a 3.2 km (2 mi) long tributary of Prairie Creek in Prairie Creek Township in Dubuque County. The proponent, a resident of Grand Mound, suggests the new name would be an appropriate way to honor LaVern Theisen (1921-1958), whose family acquired 250 acres along the stream in 1948. For the next ten years, Theisen and his wife farmed the land, but at the age of 37 he was killed in a fishing accident. Despite his relatively short association with the property, Mr. Theisen was remembered for his involvement in his church and for helping his neighbors when needed. According to the proponent, “he worked the land with conservation in mind, doing whatever he could to keep the ground from washing away into the creek.”

## MAINE

**Defence Head**: summit; elevation 5 m (15 ft); in the Town of Stockton Springs, at the S end of Cape Jellison, on the N shore of Penobscot Bay; named for the Revolutionary War Privateer *Defence* that sits in the nearby harbor; Waldo County, Maine; 44°26'37"N, 68°51'36"W; USGS map – Castine 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Head.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=44.44365&p\\_longi=-68.85994&fid=576187](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=44.44365&p_longi=-68.85994&fid=576187)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Castine 1:24,000

Proponent: Town of Stockton Springs

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Head (FID 576187)

Local Usage: Squaw Head (local residents)

Published: Squaw Head (USGS 1943, 1979; NOAA 1966, 1977; Maine Department of Marine Resources; *Dictionary of Maine Place Names*, 1970; kayak tour company)

Case Summary: This is the first of two proposals submitted by the Maine Geographic Names Authority on behalf of the Town of Stockton Springs, to change officially the names of two



geographic features in the town that are currently named “Squaw.” The Town had initially expressed reluctance to comply with the 2000 Maine State Legislation forbidding the use of the word in Maine’s placenames (the Town claimed the features were on private property and therefore exempt from the legislation), but in 2007, following pressure from the Maine Human Rights Commission, the Selectmen agreed to search for a replacement word.

The name Squaw Head applies to a summit located on a point of land at the southern end of Cape Jellison and overlooking Penobscot Bay (the point is named Squaw Point but is proposed to be changed to Defence Point (q.v.)). The name has appeared on USGS maps since 1943 and it was also listed in the 1970 volume *Dictionary of Maine Place Names*, which notes, “Some say [so named] for its shape. Others, because Indians camped there.” The proposed replacement name Defence Head refers to the wreckage of a ship that lies in the nearby harbor. According to one account, “The *Defence* was a privateer ship in the Revolutionary War that was scuttled near Stockton Springs during the Penobscot Expedition of 1779, which was the worst naval defeat in U.S. history until Pearl Harbor. The ship’s remains, which rest about 50 feet below the Penobscot River’s high tide mark, were discovered and explored during the mid-1970’s.”

**Defence Point**: cape; in the Town of Stockton Springs, at the S end of Cape Jellison, on the N shore of Penobscot Bay; named for the Revolutionary War Privateer *Defence* that sits in the nearby harbor; Waldo County, Maine; 44°26’45”N, 68°51’31”W; USGS map – Castine 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Point.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=44.4459092&p\\_longi=-68.8586427&fid=576190](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=44.4459092&p_longi=-68.8586427&fid=576190)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Castine 1:24,000

Proponent: Town of Stockton Springs

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Point (FID 576190)

Local Usage: Squaw Point (local residents)

Published: Squaw Point (USGS 1902, 1943, 1979; NOAA 1880, 1882, 1902, 1966, 1977; Maine Department of Marine Resources; *Dictionary of Maine Place Names*, 1970; kayak tour company)

Case Summary: This is the second proposal submitted by the Maine Geographic Names Authority on behalf of the Town of Stockton Springs, to change the names of two geographic features currently named “Squaw.” The name Squaw Point has been applied since at least the 1880’s to the cape located at the southern end of Cape Jellison, overlooking Penobscot Bay. The proposed replacement name, Defence Point, was chosen because the remains of a Revolutionary War ship called *Defence* lie in the harbor just off the cape.

**Epahsakom Island**: island; 1 acre; in Grand Lake Stream Plantation, within Big Lake; “Epahsakom” means “in the middle of the lake”; Washington County, Maine; 45°11’18”N, 67°40’32”W; USGS map – Big Lake 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Island.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=45.1881277&p\\_longi=-67.6747218&fid=576189](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=45.1881277&p_longi=-67.6747218&fid=576189)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Big Lake 1:24,000

Proponent: Passamaquoddy Tribe

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Island (FID 576189)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Squaw Island (USGS 1963, 1990; *Dictionary of Maine Place Names*, 1970)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change officially the name of Squaw Island in Washington County to Epahsakom Island. The island in question is located within Big Lake, between Governors Point and White Island. The origin of the current name has not been determined; it has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1963, and was also listed in *Dictionary of Maine Place Names* (Rutherford, 1970). The proposal for Epahsakom Island was submitted by the Maine State Geographic Names Authority on behalf of the Washington County Commissioners. In 2000, the Maine State Legislature passed legislation to eliminate the words “Squaw” and “Squa” from Maine’s placenames, and in the past year the County Commissioners “held a public process, as required by the law, to select appropriate replacements.” A letter from the County indicated the change had been enacted as a result of a request from the Maine Human Rights Commission. Although the debate was according to the State Names Authority “highly contentious,” the County voted to accept Epahsakom Island, a name that had been suggested by the Passamaquoddy Tribe and which means “in the middle of the lake.” The State Names Authority recommends approval of the change.

## MICHIGAN

**Mount Vernon Lake**: lake; 5 acres; in Washington Township, 0.5 km (0.3 mi) S of Clifton Mill, 6.4 km (4 mi) SW of Romeo; named in association with nearby Mount Vernon Road; Macomb County, Michigan; Sec 7, T4N, R12E, Michigan Mer.; 42°46’49”N, 83°05’12”W; USGS map – Romeo 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=42.78023&p\\_longi=-83.08667](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=42.78023&p_longi=-83.08667)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Romeo 1:24,000

Proponent: Kenneth Afton; Washington, MI

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Mount Vernon Lake is proposed for a five-acre lake in Washington Township in western Macomb County. The proponent suggests the name is appropriate, as the lake lies alongside Mount Vernon Road. Approximately 4 km (2.5 mi) to the south is the small community of Mount Vernon, as well as Mount Vernon United Methodist Church and a small stream named Mount Vernon Drain. The proponent reports that his four neighbors, who also own property adjoining the lake, all support the proposal.

## MINNESOTA

**Rock Dam Creek**: stream, 8 km (5 mi) long; heads in Bruno Township at 46°16’02”N, 92°33’19”W, flows SW then W into Fleming Township to enter Sand Creek; named for a rock dam once located in the area; Pine County, Minnesota; Secs 4&3, T43N, R18W and Secs 33-36&25, T44N, R18W, Fourth Principal Mer.; 46°14’21”N, 92°37’33”W; USGS map – Askov Lookout Tower 1:24,000 (mouth of feature).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=46.23917&p\\_longi=-92.62583](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=46.23917&p_longi=-92.62583)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=46.2671&p\\_longi=-92.55542](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=46.2671&p_longi=-92.55542)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Askov Lookout Tower 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: Jean and Maurice Olsen; Bruno, MN

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Rock Dam Creek to an unnamed 8 km (5 mi) long tributary of Sand Creek in Pine County. The proposal was forwarded by the Minnesota Geographic Names Authority on behalf of two residents of Bruno, who report that the name would be an appropriate way to recognize the existence along the stream of a small rock dam that was used during the logging era of the late 1800's. They add, "Many logging artifacts have been found in the vicinity." The Pine County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution in support of the name, and the Minnesota Geographic Names Authority endorses the proposal as well. According to GNIS, there are no other streams in Minnesota named specifically "Rock Dam," although there is a dam and an associated park in Traverse County named White Rock Dam and White Rock Dam State Wildlife Management Area, respectively.

## MISSOURI

**Orr Hollow Creek**: stream; 4.5 km (2.8 mi) long; in the Mark Twain National Forest; heads at 37°27'52"N, 90°37'08"W; flows E then S to enter Marble Creek 9.4 km (5.8 mi) E of Chloride; named in association with nearby Orr Hollow Road, which was likely named for local resident Martha Orr (d. 1892); Iron County, Missouri; Sec 23, T32N, R4W, Fifth Principal Mer.; 37°27'04"N, 90°34'56"W; USGS map – Des Arc NE 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=37.45103&p\\_longi=-90.58215](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.45103&p_longi=-90.58215)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=37.46444&p\\_longi=-90.61889](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.46444&p_longi=-90.61889)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Des Arc NE 1:24,000

Proponent: Thomas C. Boersig, III; Columbia, MO

Administrative area: Mark Twain National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal, submitted by the Missouri Board on Geographic Names (MOBGN) on behalf of a member of the Missouri Stream Team, would apply the new name Orr Hollow Creek to an unnamed tributary of Marble Creek in Iron County. The 4.5 km (2.8 mi) long stream lies within the Mark Twain National Forest. The proposed name recognizes the fact that the road that runs alongside the stream is named Orr Hollow Road. Further evidence suggests the road was named for Martha Orr (d. 1892), a longtime resident of the area. The Iron County Commissioners and the MOBGN both recommend approval of this proposal.

## MONTANA

**Aspen Hill**: pillar; elevation 2,079 m (6,821 ft); located 16 km (10 mi) SSE of Adel, 63 km (39 mi) N of Townsend and Canyon Ferry Dam, 69 km (43 mi) SW of Great Falls; the name reflects the existence of aspen trees in the area; Meagher County, Montana; Secs 6&7, T13N, R2E, Principal Meridian; 46°53'56"N, 111°31'43"W; USGS map – B K Ranch 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Teat.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=46.8991105&p\\_longi=-111.5288577&fid=791398](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=46.8991105&p_longi=-111.5288577&fid=791398)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS B K Ranch 1:24,000

Proponent: Meagher County Commission

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Teat (FID 791398)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Squaw Teat (USGS 1962, 1991; SummitPost website)

Case Summary: The name Squaw Teat applies currently to a 2,079 m (6,821 ft) pillar located 16 km (10 mi) SSE of Adel in northwest Meagher County. The origin of the pillar's current name has not been determined; the earliest map on which the name appears is the USGS topographic map published in 1962. This proposal, to change the name to Aspen Hill, was submitted by the Meagher County Commission in response to a request for comments on another proposal, which was submitted by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes to change the name to Mil-mil-teh Hill (BGN Review List 396). The latter name is the Anglicization of the Salish and Pend d'Oreille word meaning quaking aspen tree. It is one of 25 changes submitted by the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes to eliminate many of the "Squaw" placenames throughout the State. The County Commissioners believe the Salish name would be too difficult to pronounce and remember.

**Benson Peak**: summit, elevation 2,584 m (8,478 ft); at the SW end of the Ruby Range, 0.6 km (0.4 mi) W of the head of Sweetwater Creek; named for Arnold G. Benson (1907-1990), longtime area rancher, teacher, and active member of the community; Beaverhead County, Montana; Sec 21, T8S, R7W, Principal Meridian; 45°07'12"N, 112°27'54"W; USGS map - Elk Gulch 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=45.12012&p\\_longi=-112.4651](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.12012&p_longi=-112.4651)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Elk Gulch 1:24,000

Proponent: Ronald and Marilyn Benson; Dillon, MT

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new commemorative name Benson Peak is proposed for a 2,584 m (8,478 ft) summit in Beaverhead County. The new name, submitted by members of the Benson family, would honor Arnold G. Benson (1907-1990), a longtime area rancher, teacher, and active member of the community. According to the application, "Arnold founded Parkview Acres Rest Home; he began the Youth Fair (now the county fair), founded the original stockyards in Beaverhead County, and instigated the Rancher's Roundtable. He was honored as the Outstanding Stockman of Southwest Montana and also served on the county weed board. He was a teacher until he left that profession to ranch and farm. During the peak of his ranching profession he owned five ranches

scattered throughout Beaverhead County, including a purebred Hereford operation known as Benson Ranches.” Although Benson Ranches was dissolved following Arnold Benson’s retirement in 1986, the proponent reports that she and her family continue to own the property and to use it for grazing.

The USGS topographic map shows a triangulation station named *Gordon* at the peak of the unnamed summit; however, the proponent, who has conducted extensive research into the history of the area, says she has no knowledge of any individual or family named Gordon having ever lived or ranched in the area. She speculates that the station name may refer to that of one of the crew members who surveyed the area in 1961. She reports that no one living in the area has ever known the summit to be named “Gordon Peak” or anything similar. Letters of support for Benson Peak have been received from the Beaverhead County Weed Board, the Southwestern Montana Stockmen’s Association, and the Director of Development and Alumni Affairs for the University of Montana Western Foundation.

**Big Sagebrush Coulee:** valley; 17 km (11 mi) long; heads at 47°06’27”N, 109°59’41”W, 17 km (10 mi) NNE of Moccasin, 37 km (23 mi) NW of Lewistown; Judith Basin County and Fergus County, Montana; Tps16-17N, R15E, Principal Meridian; 47°12’08”N, 109°52’17”W; USGS map –Harwood Bench 1:24,000 (mouth of feature); Not: Squaw Coulee.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=47.2022222&p\\_longi=-109.8713889&fid=777119](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=47.2022222&p_longi=-109.8713889&fid=777119)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Harwood Bench 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: Judith Basin County Commission

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Coulee (FID 777119)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Squaw Coulee (USGS 1970, 1974, 1991; DeLorme Montana Atlas & Gazetteer, 1994; SummitPost website; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Prairie Streams Survey, 2005; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Project Performance Report; The Newberry Library Inventory of Virgil J. Vogel Research and Personal Papers, 1941-1993)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change officially the name of Squaw Coulee, a 17 km (11 mi) long valley in eastern Judith Basin County and western Fergus County, to Big Sagebrush Coulee. It was submitted by the Judith Basin County Commissioners in response to another proposal that the BGN has received from the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, to rename the same feature In-poo-poo-neh Coulee (Review List 396). The latter name is from the Salish language and means “place of big sagebrush.” The origin of the valley’s current name has not been determined; the earliest map on which the name has been located is the 1970 USGS topographic map. The County Commissioners have stated they are not opposed to changing the name Squaw Coulee, but suggest In-poo-poo-neh Coulee “would not be appropriate for this area.” According to GNIS, there are 12 other features in Montana named “Sagebrush,” including another valley named Sagebrush Coulee in Liberty County, approximately 158 km (98 mi) from the valley in question. There is a dam in Fergus County, 97 km (60 mi) away, named Sagebrush Number 3 Dam.

**Cameron Creek:** stream; 3.4 km (2.1 mi) long; in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, heads at 46°50’45”N, 110°56’17”W, flows SW to join Sheep Creek 69 km (43 mi) NE of Townsend, 82 km (51 mi) SSE of Great Falls; named for Cameron, a sheep rancher who homesteaded in the area in the early 1900’s; Meagher County, Montana; Secs 4-3, T12N, R6E and Secs 34-35, T13N, R6E,



Principal Meridian; 46°49'36"N, 110°58'18"; USGS map – Strawberry Butte 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Creek.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=46.8266667&p\\_longi=-110.9713889&fid=791371](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=46.8266667&p_longi=-110.9713889&fid=791371)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Strawberry Butte 1:24,000

Proponent: Meagher County Commission

Administrative area: Lewis and Clark National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Creek (FID 791371)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Squaw Creek (USGS 1967, 1984; SummitPost.org website)

Case Summary: The name Squaw Creek applies currently to a 3.4 km (2.1 mi) long tributary of Sheep Creek in northern Meagher County, within the Lewis and Clark National Forest, and 69 km (43 mi) northeast of Townsend. The origin of the stream's current name has not been determined; the earliest map on which it appears is the 1967 USGS topographic map. This proposal, to change the name to Cameron Creek, was submitted by the Meagher County Commission in response to another proposal by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes to change it to Il-mo-to Creek (*Il-mo-to* is the Anglicization of the Salish word for sheep). The County Commissioners suggest Cameron Creek would be a more appropriate name, as it would honor a sheep rancher named Cameron "who homesteaded in that drainage for a time in the early 1900's. Local residents remember him and his family and have called it the Cameron place for over 100 years." The County also argues that the Salish name is "not easy to remember [or] pronounce and is proposed by those who live over 200 miles away and out of the county." As such, they believe "the old, derogatory name will continue to be used." According to the County, the proposal for Cameron Creek also has the support of the Meagher County Conservation District.

**Cutthroat Creek**: stream; 3 km (1.9 mi) long; heads in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, 31 km (19 mi) SW of Philipsburg, just outside the Sapphire Wilderness Study Area, at 46°04'19"N, 113°28'27"W, flows NE into Middle Fork Rock Creek; Granite County, Montana; Secs 19-21,&28, T4N, R15W, Principal Meridian; 46°05'15"N, 113°30'22"W; USGS map – Moose Lake 1:24,000 (mouth of feature); Not: Squaw Creek.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=46.0875&p\\_longi=-113.5061111&fid=791377](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=46.0875&p_longi=-113.5061111&fid=791377)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Moose Lake 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: Granite County Commission; Philipsburg, MT

Administrative area: Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Creek (FID 791377)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Squaw Creek (USGS 1971, 1974, 1993, 1996; SummitPost website)

Case Summary: The name Squaw Creek applies currently to a 3 km (1.9 mi) long stream located in southern Granite County, within the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, approximately 31 km (19 mi) southwest of Philipsburg. The origin of the stream's current name has not been determined; the earliest map on which the name has been located is the USGS topographic map published in 1971. This proposal, to change the name of Squaw Creek to Cutthroat Creek, was submitted by the Granite County Commission in response to another, on BGN Review List 396, to rename it Pees-thul Creek. The word "pees-thul" is of Salish origin and means "cutthroat trout." The

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes note, “This creek is one of the uppermost parts of the Rock Creek drainage, famed as one of the best native trout fisheries in the nation.” The County Commissioners believe the Salish name “has no local recognition or significance.”

**Indian Graves Butte**: summit; elevation 1,194 m (3,916 ft); located 1.7 km (1.1 mi) E of the confluence of Alkali Creek and Warm Spring Creek, 6.6 km (4.1 mi) SSE of Seventytwo Hills; Fergus County, Montana; Sec 1, T17N, R16E, Principal Meridian; 47°16'14"N, 109°37'50"W; USGS map – Toney Bench 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Point, Squaws Grave Butte.  
[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=47.2705328&p\\_longi=-109.6304663&fid=777135](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=47.2705328&p_longi=-109.6304663&fid=777135)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Toney Bench, MT 1:24,000

Proponent: Fergus County Commissioners; Lewistown, MT

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaws Grave Butte (FID 777135)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Squaws Grave Butte (USGS 1978, 1991; SummitPost website); Squaw Point (U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey 1961)

Case Summary: The name Squaws Grave Butte applies currently to a 1,194 m (3,916 ft) summit in west-central Fergus County, approximately 1.7 km (1.1 mi) east of the confluence of Alkali Creek and Warm Spring Creek, and 6.6 km (4.1 mi) south-southeast of Seventytwo Hills. The origin of the summit's current name has not been determined; the earliest map on which the name has been located is the 1978 USGS topographic map. The proposal to change the name to Indian Graves Butte was submitted by the Fergus County Commissioners in response to an earlier proposal submitted by the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribal Council, which has asked that the stream name be change to In-matl-qe Butte (BGN Review List 396). The latter name is of Salish origin and according to the proponent means “place of warm water.” The proposal for In-matl-qe Butte has the support of the Montana House Bill 412 “Squaw Name Change” Advisory Committee and the American Indian Caucus of the Montana State Legislature. The proponent has confirmed he prefers the singular form for “Indian” and the plural form for “Graves.” At the peak of the feature is a National Geodetic Survey reference mark designated “Squaw 1961.” The description of the mark notes that it is located “on the highest point of a rocky outcrop that falls away in a sheer cliff to the west and is known locally as Squaw Point.”

## NEBRASKA

**East Nadrchals Minnow Creek**: stream; 1.4 km (0.9 mi) long; heads in Pleasant Valley Township at 41°34'39"N, 96°53'42"W, flows SSW into Union Township to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Nadrchals Minnow Creek (q.v.); named for the Nadrchals family, longtime area residents, and for the minnows found in the stream; Dodge County, Nebraska; Sec 6, T18N, R5E and Sec 31, T19N, R5E, Sixth Principal Mer.; 41°34'01"N, 96°54'15"W; USGS map – Dodge SW 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.56696&lon=-96.90422&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.57753&lon=-96.8951&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Dodge SW 1:24,000

Proponent: Ken Nadrchal; Ralston, NE

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The name East Nadrchals Minnow Creek is the first of four new names proposed for four unnamed streams in the southwestern corner of Dodge County. The names would recognize the long time association between the Nadrchal family and the stream, and also the existence of hundreds of minnows that the proponent recalls seeing in the stream as a youngster. The proponent reports that the streams flow through farmland which has been in his family for three generations, and so the names would specifically honor his grandparents Charles Nadrchal (1893-1976) and Emma Nadrchal (1897-1969) and parents Elden Nadrchal (1925-1975) and Marilyn Nadrchal (1933-1982). The other two tributaries are proposed to be named Middle Nadrchals Minnow Creek and West Nadrchals Minnow Creek, while the primary stream would be named Nadrchals Minnow Creek.

**Middle Nadrchals Minnow Creek**: stream; 2.7 km (1.7 mi) long; in Pleasant Valley Township, heads at 41°35'33"N, 96°54'16"W, flows S to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named East Nadrchals Minnow Creek (q.v.); named for the Nadrchals family, longtime area residents, and for the minnows found in the stream; Dodge County, Nebraska; Secs 31&30, T19N, R5E, Sixth Principal Mer.; 41°34'09"N, 96°54'06"W; USGS map – Dodge SW 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.56907&lon=-96.90172&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.59239&lon=-96.90436&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Dodge SW 1:24,000

Proponent: Ken Nadrchal; Ralston, NE

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Middle Nadrchals Minnow Creek is proposed for a 2.7 km (1.7 mi) long tributary of another unnamed stream proposed to be named East Nadrchals Minnow Creek. These names, plus two others, would recognize the long time association between the Nadrchal family and the stream, and also the existence of hundreds of minnows that the proponent recalls seeing in the stream as a youngster.

**Nadrchals Minnow Creek**: stream; 2.4 km (1.5 mi) long; in Union Township, heads at 41°34'01"N, 96°54'15"W, flows S to enter Maple Creek 14 km (9 mi) NW of North Bend; named for the Nadrchals family, longtime area residents, and for the minnows found in the stream; Dodge County, Nebraska; Secs 7&6, T18N, R5E, Sixth Principal Mer.; 41°32'48"N, 96°54'19"W; USGS map – Dodge SW 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.54675&lon=-96.90537&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.56696&lon=-96.90422&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Dodge SW 1:24,000

Proponent: Ken Nadrchal; Ralston, NE

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Nadrchals Minnow Creek is proposed for a 2.4 km (1.5 mi) long tributary of Maple Creek in Dodge County. The name would recognize the long time association between the Nadrchal family and the stream, and also the existence of hundreds of minnows that the proponent recalls seeing in the stream as a youngster. Two tributaries that flows into this stream are proposed to be named East Nadrchals Minnow Creek and West Nadrchals Minnow Creek, while a fourth name, Middle Nadrchals Minnow Creek, is proposed for a tributary of East Nadrchals Minnow Creek.

**West Nadrchals Minnow Creek**: stream; 3 km (1.8 mi) long; heads in Maple Creek Township at 41°35'32"N, 96°54'44"W, flows SSE into Union Township to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Nadrchals Minnow Creek (q.v.); named for the Nadrchals family, longtime area residents, and for the minnows found in the stream; Dodge County and Colfax County, Nebraska; Secs 36&25, T19N, R4E; Sec 31, T19N, R5E, and Sec 6, T18N, R5E, Sixth Principal Mer.; 41°34'01"N, 96°54'15"W; USGS map – Dodge SW 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.56696&lon=-96.90428&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.59216&lon=-96.9121&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Dodge SW 1:24,000

Proponent: Ken Nadrchal; Ralston, NE

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name West Nadrchals Minnow Creek is proposed for a 3 km (1.8 mi) long tributary of another unnamed stream proposed to be named Nadrchals Minnow Creek (q.v.). These names, plus two others, would recognize the long time association between the Nadrchal family and the stream, and also the existence of hundreds of minnows that the proponent recalls seeing in the stream as a youngster. This is the only one of the four streams that extends from Dodge County into neighboring Colfax County.

## NEW YORK

**Rea Brook**: stream; 18 km (11 mi) long; in the Town of Beekmantown, heads 3.2 km (2 mi) N of Beartown at 44°47'06"N, 73°35'06"W, flows generally SE then E past the community of Beekmantown, then SE to enter Dead Creek just SE of East Beekmantown; named for William Rea, who settled in the area in 1825 and operated a sawmill and foundry; Clinton County, New York; 44°44'43"N, 73°27'13"W; USGS map - Plattsburgh 1:24,000 (mouth of feature); Not: Ray Brook, Silver Creek.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=44.74537&lon=-73.45356&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=44.78503&lon=-73.58491&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: to change a name to the correct spelling of a family name

Map: USGS Plattsburgh 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: James Bailey; Plattsburgh NY

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Ray Brook (FID 962239)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Ray Brook (USGS 1966, 1986; New York State Highway Department, 2008; Clinton County highway map, 1946), Rea Brook (Census Bureau 2007; PressRepublican.com, 2007), Silver Creek – in part (USGS 1907; *Beers Atlas of Clinton County*, 1869)

Case Summary: This proposal, to change officially the name of Ray Brook to Rea Brook, was submitted by a Trustee with the Clinton County Historical Association. Although the name Ray Brook has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1907, and was also on the Clinton County highway map of 1946, the proponent reports that the correct spelling should be “Rea” as the William Rea family were pioneers and sawmill builders at this stream. He notes that the volume *Beekmantown: A Landmark in a Passageway* (Shields, ed.; 1976) details William Rea’s arrival in the area in 1825 and his establishment of iron works (“Rea Foundry”) along the stream. According to the proponent’s research, there are no present-day or pioneer families in the area named “Ray.” He notes also that the *Beers Atlas of Clinton County* (1869) labeled the upstream portion of the stream Silver Creek, and that name also appeared on the 1907 USGS topographic map for the section upstream of the community of Beekmantown, but it is not listed in GNIS as a separate feature, nor as a variant of Ray Brook. The *Beers Atlas* also listed William and John Rea as business owners in the community. A description of hiking trails in the Beekmantown area, published in 2007 at PressRepublican.com, refers to “the curves and oxbows of meandering Rea Brook.” The Census Bureau’s MAF/TIGER Database also labels the stream Rea Brook. In addition to his organization, the proponent reports that the Clinton County Historian, the Beekmantown Town Historian, and the Plattsburgh City Historian are all in support of this proposal.

## NORTH CAROLINA

**Big Branch**: stream; 2.4 km (1.5 mi) long; heads on the S side of North Knob at 35°43’27”N, 82°29’46”W, flows SW then SE through Barrett Cove to join Reems Creek 1.9 km (1.2 mi) NW of Ray Knob; Buncombe County, North Carolina; 35°42’20”N, 82°29’25”W; USGS map – Craggy Pinnacle 1:24,000; Not: Big Branch of Reems Creek

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=35.70556&lon=-82.49028&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=1&s=50>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=35.72417&lon=-82.49611&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=1&s=50>

Proposal: to make official a historical name

Map: USGS Craggy Pinnacle 1:24,000

Proponent: Ms. Kathryn Blau; Asheville, NC

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None



Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Big Branch of Reems Creek (North Carolina deed, 1820)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Big Branch for a 2.4 km (1.5 mi) long stream in Buncombe County. The stream heads on the south side of North Knob and flows southwest then southeast through Barrett Cove (a valley) and the Hawk Landing neighborhood to join Reems Creek 1.9 km (1.2 mi) northwest of Ray Knob. The name was chosen in a community “creek-naming contest” involving local residents. According to the proponent, the proposed name was found on a State of North Carolina deed dated 1820, which deeded the [Barrett] Cove to a Revolutionary War veteran as “Big Branch of Reems Creek.” She claims the name has been in local use for 188 years. She also added that the name has the support of the Hawks Landing neighborhood, the Buncombe County Commissioners, the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and RiverLink, the company for which she is employed as Education Coordinator. There are 78 streams in North Carolina named Big Branch, including one in Buncombe County; the two streams are 17 km (10 mi) apart.

## OHIO

**Lost Fen**: swamp; 1 acre; in Chester Township, 2.6 km (1.6 mi) ENE of Chesterland; Geauga County, Ohio; 41°31'38"N, 81°18'24"W; USGS map - Chesterland 1:24,000.

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.52706&lon=-81.30674&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Chesterland 1:24,000

Proponent: Pedro Onativia Lake; Cleveland, OH

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Lost Fen is proposed for a small wetlands area in Chester Township, 2.6 km (1.6 mi) east-northeast of Chesterland. The proponent is a local botanist who reports that he and a colleague “discovered” the site while taking a plant inventory on private property. He describes it as “a fen, a wetland with neutral to alkaline pH, supporting a variety of unique and rare (endangered) plants observed by the botanists. The name “lost” is suitable because upon several visits to the area we became lost every time.” According to GNIS, there are no other swamps in Ohio named “Fen” although there are two administrative features, both in Clark County, named Prairie Road Fen State Nature Preserve and Crabill Fen Nature Preserve. Nationwide, there are three features classified as swamp with “Fen” as the generic (one each in California, Florida, and Massachusetts) and another 31 administrative features classified as park (primarily State Nature Preserves) that include the word “Fen.”

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Corn Church Creek**: stream; 1 km (0.6 mi) long; in Pike Township, heads at 40°22'43"N, 75°40'53"W; flows NW to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Drumhellers School Creek (q.v.); the name provides a historical reference to the 18<sup>th</sup> century “Hill Church”, which was

also known as the “Corn Church” because early settlers hung corn to dry under its rafters; Berks County, Pennsylvania; 40°23’00”N, 75°41’16”W; USGS map –Manatawny 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.38344&lon=-75.68813&s=24&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.37861&lon=-75.68139&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=24>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Manatawny 1:24,000

Proponent: Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This is the first of six proposals submitted by the Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council, which wishes to apply new names to unnamed streams in the Oysterville Creek and Pine Creek drainage systems (all six are located in Pike Township, with one extending into neighboring Earl Township). All of the new names are intended to recognize historical landmarks in the area. The first name, Corn Church Creek, would be applied to a 1 km (0.6 mi) long tributary of another unnamed stream that is proposed to be named Drumhellers School Creek (q.v.). The proponent reports the name Corn Church Creek was chosen because the stream lies near St. John – Hill United Church of Christ (built in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century and long known as the “Hill Church”); the church’s roof, which projected over the sides, was used not only for storm protection but also for hanging seed corn to be dried. Many of the area’s early German settlers referred to the church as “Die Welshkorn Kerche” or “Corn Church.” There are no other streams in Pennsylvania with “Corn Church” in the name, but there is a stream named Indian Corn Creek, also in Berks County, 17 km (11 mi) to the southwest of the stream in question. Along with the six proposals, the proponent provided letters of support from the Pike Township Board of Supervisors and the Berks County Commissioners.

**Dieners Daal Creek**: stream; 1.6 km (1 mi) long; in Pike Township, heads at 40°22’26”N, 75°40’58”W; flows NW to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Drumhellers School Creek (q.v.), 7.5 km (4.6 mi) NW of Boyertown; named for the Diener family that lived in the area in the 18<sup>th</sup> century; the word daal is German for small valley; Berks County, Pennsylvania; 40°23’06”N, 75°41’39”W; USGS map –Manatawny 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.38492&lon=-75.69404&s=24&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.37371&lon=-75.68264&s=24&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Manatawny 1:24,000

Proponent: Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This is the second of six new names submitted by the Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council. The name Dieners Daal Creek is proposed for a 1.6 km (1 mi)

long tributary of another unnamed stream proposed to be named Drumhellers School Creek (q.v.), which is in turn a tributary of Oysterville Creek. The source of the stream in question lies within neighboring Earl Township. The name Dieners Daal Creek refers to an area long known as the “Dieners Daal” because the Diener family settled there in the 1700’s. A stone farmhouse located on the family homestead still displays a plate inscribed “Henry and Cadarina Diener 1818.” The proposal for Dieners Daal Creek has the support of the Pike Township Board of Supervisors, the Earl Township Board of Supervisors, and the Berks County Board of Commissioners. There are no other streams in Pennsylvania named “Diener,” but there is a community in Schuylkill County, approximately 54 km (33 mi) to the northwest named Dieners Hill.

**Drumhellers School Creek**: stream; 3.9 km (2.4 mi) long; in Pike Township, heads at 40°22’51”N, 75°40’17”W; flows N and W to enter Oysterville Creek 5.9 km (3.7 mi) NW of Boyertown; named for the historical Drumheller’s School, a one-room school located along Hill Church Road; Berks County, Pennsylvania: 40°23’47”N, 75°42’27”W; USGS map –Manatawny 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.3964&lon=-75.70769&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=24>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.38083&lon=-75.67139&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Manatawny 1:24,000

Proponent: Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Drumhellers School Creek is proposed for a 3.9 km (2.4 mi) long tributary of Oysterville Creek in Pike Township. It was proposed by the Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council, in an effort to recognize the historic Drumheller’s School, a one-room school that once operated along nearby Hill Church Road. When school consolidation resulted in the closing of many of the area’s smaller schools, the building was purchased by Pike Township and now serves as its municipal office and meeting place. The proposed name Drumhellers School Creek has the support of the Pike Township Board of Supervisors and the Berks County Commissioners.

**Heiligs School Creek**: stream; 1.6 km (1 mi) long; heads at 40°25’26”N, 75°41’41”W, flows SW, under Heilig School Road and NW to enter Pine Creek; named for the historic Heiligs School; Berks County, Pennsylvania: 40°25’13”N, 75°42’32”W; USGS map –Manatawny 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.42018&lon=-75.70889&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=24>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.42383&lon=-75.69464&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=24>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Manatawny 1:24,000

Proponent: Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This new name Heiligs School Creek is proposed by the Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council for a 1.6 km (1 mi) long tributary of Pine Creek. The name would recognize the stream's proximity to the historic one-room Heilig's School, which is now a private residence. The proposal for Heiligs School Creek has the support of the Pike Township Board of Supervisors and the Berks County Commissioners.

**Honey Bee Creek:** stream; 1 km (0.6 mi) long; heads in LeBoeuf Township 4.6 km (2.9 mi) S of Waterford, 25 km (16 mi) SSE of Erie, at 41°54'28"N, 79°59'36"W; flows E to enter LeBoeuf Creek; the name recognizes the large number of honey bees found in the area; Erie County, Pennsylvania; 41°54'10"N, 79°59'10"W; USGS map –Waterford 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.90277&lon=-79.98605&s=24&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.90833&lon=-79.99367&s=24&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Waterford 1:24,000

Proponent: Timothy D. Klein; Fairview, PA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No Record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Honey Bee Creek to a 1 km (0.6 mi) long tributary of LeBoeuf Creek, in LeBoeuf Township in Erie County. It was submitted by a long time area resident who has owned property at the head of the stream for 50 years. According to the proponent, there is on the bank of this stream an ancient hemlock tree which has been hollowed out by time, and which "has been taken over by the largest hive of honey bees I personally have ever encountered!" He adds, "Honey bee numbers have been declining at an alarming rate, [and] researchers believe that this decline is due to the use of cellular phones interfering with the bees' natural homing abilities. Paying tribute to the species seems appropriate before they are all gone!" According to GNIS, there are six geographic features in the nation named "Honey Bee," although none of these are in Pennsylvania.

**Lower Dam Reservoir Run:** dam; in East Stroudsburg Township, along Sambo Creek (proposed Reservoir Run); Monroe County, Pennsylvania; 41°02'34"N, 75°11'01"W; USGS map - East Stroudsburg 1:24,000; Not: Lower Dam, Lower Dam Sambo Creek.

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.04268&lon=-75.18356&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS East Stroudsburg 1:24,000

Proponent: Kietryn Zychal; Pocono Summit, PA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Lower Dam Sambo Creek (FID 1195217)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Lower Dam Sambo Creek (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Dams and Reservoirs List, 1981)

Case Summary: This proposal would change officially the name of a dam, named currently Lower Dam Sambo Creek, to Lower Dam Reservoir Run. It is the first of three proposals submitted by a local resident to rename features in East Stroudsburg Township that are named “Sambo.” The dam and associated Sambo Creek Lower Reservoir lie along an 11 km (7 mi) long stream that is currently named Sambo Creek but which is proposed to be renamed Reservoir Run (q.v.). The new names were selected because East Stroudsburg Reservoir is located along the stream.

Although the origin of the name “Sambo” has not been determined and there is some evidence it could be a family name, the proponent believes it has become a derogatory term and should be changed. The dam is not depicted on the USGS topographic map, but the reservoir it forms does appear; the GNIS entries for both features were obtained from an inventory of dams and reservoirs provided to the USGS Geographic Names Office in 1981 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The proponent also requested that the name of Sambo Island, a few miles further to the east but also in Monroe County, be changed, but since the island lies within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, she suggested it would be appropriate to defer to the National Park Service for a replacement name. The Park Superintendent has proposed Turtle Island (q.v.). A flood rehabilitation map prepared by the USACE and posted online also labels another Brodhead Creek tributary further to the south of Sambo Creek as Little Sambo Creek. This name is not listed in GNIS nor did the proponent mention it in her application.

**Morris Marsh**: swamp; 200 acres; in Delmar Township, N of Wellsboro Junction, E of State Route 287; named for Benjamin Morris, who founded the nearby community of Wellsboro; Tioga County, Pennsylvania; 41°47'33"N, 77°17'57"W; USGS map - Keeneyville 1:24,000; Not: Marsh Creek Wetlands, The Muck.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=41.792097&p\\_longi=-77.299204](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.792097&p_longi=-77.299204)

Proposal: to make official a historical name

Map: USGS Keeneyville 1:24,000

Proponent: Jim Weaver; Wellsboro, PA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: The Muck (local residents, birders, and hunters)

Published: Marsh Creek Wetlands (Pennsylvania Game Commission/Bureau of Wildlife Management, 2006), Morris' Marsh (Pennsylvania Law Book, 1805), The Muck (Pennsylvania Game Commission/Bureau of Wildlife Management, 2006; Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 2005; North Central Pennsylvania Conservancy, 2004; Tiadaghton Audubon Society, 2008; various hunting, birding, and wildlife habitat websites)

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the name Morris Marsh to a marshy area in Delmar Township, just north of Wellsboro Junction. It was submitted by the Tioga County Planner, who reports that the area in question is considered a separate and distinct feature from nearby Baldwin Run, and that identifying it as such would help define the extent of the stream's watershed. He notes also that Baldwin Run is classified as a Class A Wild Trout stream, which is not the case for the marsh, and classifying it as part of Baldwin Run has “complex and convoluted ramifications.” Further, there is historical evidence that the proposed name was applied to the area as far back as the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, having been named for Benjamin Morris, who founded the nearby community of Wellsboro. Morris' Marsh [sic] was mentioned in an Act in the Pennsylvania Law Book of 1805.



The proponent adds, “The marsh is known locally as “The Muck”; it was completely drained and farmed at the turn of the last century. Since then for a number of reasons it has reverted back to a large wetland complex.” The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection’s representative to the State Board on Geographic Names confirms that the name The Muck is in local use, although a Pennsylvania Game Commission/Bureau of Wildlife Management report, published in 2006, refers to the area as Marsh Creek Wetlands. Several birding and hunting websites mention The Muck, with the Tiadaghton Audubon Society stating, “The Muck is a large (0.5 x 2.0 mile) wetland area....It was designated as an Important Bird Area by the Pennsylvania Audubon Society in 1999.”

The County Planner does not wish to make official the locally-used name The Muck because there is another feature with the same name in Steuben County, New York. The Tioga County Commissioners are in support of the proposal for Morris Marsh. There are already 11 features in Tioga County named “Morris,” including four streams, two communities, a township, two trails, a reservoir, and a dam.

**Moser Run**: stream; 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long; heads at 40°22’40”N, 75°40’40”W, flows N into an unnamed stream proposed to be named Drumhellers School Creek (q.v.), 6 km (4 mi ) NW of Boyertown; named for the Moser family who settled near the head of the stream in 1747; Berks County, Pennsylvania; 40°22’59”N, 75°40’41”W; USGS map – Manatawny 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.3831&lon=-75.678&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=24>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.37779&lon=-75.67772&s=24&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Manatawny 1:24,000

Proponent: Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Moser Run is proposed by the Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council for a 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long tributary of an unnamed stream proposed to be named Drumhellers School Creek (q.v.). The name was selected because the stream lies near the Moser homestead, first settled in 1747 by John Moser (b. 1697), a native of Germany who came to America in 1729. The four stone farmhouses built on the property that became known locally as “Moserland” still stand today. The proponent suggests it is appropriate that the stream should be named for the first owners of property. The name Moser Run has the support of the Pike Township Board of Supervisors and the Berks County Commissioners. The only other feature in Pennsylvania named “Moser” is Moser School in Jefferson County.

**Mountain Mary Creek**: stream; 1.3 km (0.8 mi) long; heads at 40°23’25”N, 75°40’49”W, flows SW to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Drumhellers School Creek (q.v.), 7.5 km (4.7 mi) NW of Boyertown; named for herbalist and healer Anna Maria “Mountain Mary” Jung (d. 1819), who lived along the stream in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries; Berks County, Pennsylvania; 40°23’06”N, 75°41’38”W; USGS map – Manatawny 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.385&lon=-75.69389&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=24>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.39028&lon=-75.68028&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=24>

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Manatawny 1:24,000

Proponent: Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This is the last of the six new names proposed by the Pike Township Environmental Advisory Council for six unnamed streams in the Oysterville Creek and Pine Creek drainage systems. The stream proposed to be named Mountain Mary Creek flows from the north to enter another unnamed stream proposed to be named Drumhellers School Creek (q.v.). The name would honor Anna Maria “Mountain Mary” Jung, a herbalist and healer who lived for many years in the hills of Pike Township where the stream originates. Mountain Mary, whose Pennsylvania Dutch name was “Barricke Mariche” (in German, “Die Berg Maria”), was reputedly a hermit and holy woman. It is believed she was born in Europe but fled to Philadelphia shortly before the American Revolution. Mary Young, as she was called after anglicizing her name, lived in the mountains tending a “magic” herb garden; she was reputed to have a wide and astonishing knowledge of the medicinal value of her roots and herbs. Her fame spread far beyond the local area and she saw patients from distant areas, never requiring payment for her services. Mountain Mary died in 1819 at age 70; Mountain Marys Grave is shown on the USGS topographic map and is listed in GNIS. The dirt road that passes her former homestead and gravesite is named Mountain Mary Road. The proposal for Mountain Mary Creek has the support of the Pike Township Board of Supervisors and the Berks County Commissioners.

**Reservoir Run:** stream; 11 km (7 mi) long; heads in Middle Smithfield Township at 41°05’07”N, 75°09’37”W, flows S and SW through East Stroudsburg Reservoir to enter Brodhead Creek in the Borough of East Stroudsburg; Monroe County, Pennsylvania; 41°00’18”N, 75°11’28”W; USGS map - East Stroudsburg 1:24,000; Not: Sambo Creek.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.00488&lon=-75.19101&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=l&s=50>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.08569&lon=-75.16034&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS East Stroudsburg 1:24,000

Proponent: Kietryn Zychal; Pocono Summit, PA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Sambo Creek (FID 1186890)

Local Usage: Sambo Creek (Brodhead Watershed Association, 2007)

Published: Sambo Creek (USGS 1986, 1993; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood control rehabilitation project, 2007; Pennsylvania Code; Pennsylvania Bulletin/National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, 2001; Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection/Bureau of Waterways Engineering; Pennsylvania Fish and Game Commission, 2006; New Jersey Department of Environmental Conservation/East Stroudsburg South High School science class, 2002; Monroe County highway map, 1991; Monroe County Planning Commission, 2006;

Brodhead Watershed Association, 2007; National Dam Inspection Program, 1979;  
Sambo Creek Stabilization and Restoration Project, 2007)

Case Summary: This proposal would change officially the name of Sambo Creek in Monroe County to Reservoir Run. Although the origin of the existing name has not yet been determined, the proponent believes it is derogatory and should be changed. She adds that she is affiliated with the Brodhead Watershed Association, and that the association members also support efforts to change the name. The name Sambo Creek has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1986 and is also mentioned in various State and regional documents. The entry for Sambo Creek in Thomas Gordon's *Gazetteer of the State of Pennsylvania* (1832) reads, "Rises in Pike co., and flowing south westerly through the N.W. corner of Smithfield t-ship, Northampton county, falls into Broadhead's creek in Stroud t-ship. It is not navigable, but turns several mills." The proponent claims the stream was shown on an early township map as "Nigger Run," but she has yet to locate a copy of that map. She adds, "[I'm] not sure when the name was changed to Sambo Creek, but that's not much better. Let's just give it a new name without any double meanings." The proposed name recognizes the fact that the stream flows through East Stroudsburg Reservoir.

**Reservoir Run Lower Reservoir**: reservoir; 2 acres; in East Stroudsburg Township, along Sambo Creek (proposed Reservoir Run); Monroe County, Pennsylvania; 41°02'34"N, 75°11'01"W; USGS map - East Stroudsburg 1:24,000; Not: Sambo Creek Lower Reservoir.

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.04268&lon=-75.18356&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS East Stroudsburg 1:24,000

Proponent: Kietryn Zychal; Pocono Summit, PA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Sambo Creek Lower Reservoir (FID 1195216)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Sambo Creek Lower Reservoir (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Dams and Reservoirs List, 1981; [www.fishingworks.com](http://www.fishingworks.com))

Case Summary: This is the third of the three proposals submitted to change the names of three geographic features in East Stroudsburg Township from "Sambo" to "Reservoir." The name Sambo Creek Lower Reservoir applies currently to a small reservoir located along Sambo Creek, the name of which is proposed to be changed to Reservoir Run (q.v.). The reservoir is shown but not named on the USGS topographic map; the entry in GNIS was obtained from a listing of dams and reservoirs provided to the USGS Geographic Names Office in 1981 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers .

**Starry Brook**: stream; 1.9 km (1.2 mi) long; heads in Hampden Township on the S slope of Blue Mountain at 40°18'14"N, 76°58'35"W, flows S then SE into East Pennsboro Township to enter Holtz Run; named for Arthur Starry (1918-1966), who owned property along the stream for many years; Cumberland County, Pennsylvania; 40°17'42"N, 76°57'49"W; USGS map – Harrisburg West 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.295&lon=-76.96359&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.30389&lon=-76.9764&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Harrisburg West 1:24,000

Proponent: Olyssa Starry; Enola, PA

Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
    GNIS: No record  
    Local Usage: None found  
    Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Starry Brook is proposed for a 1.9 km (1.2 mi) long tributary of Holtz Run in the northeastern corner of Cumberland County. The stream heads in Hampden Township, then flows to the south and southeast into East Pennsboro Township. According to the proponent, the name is not only commemorative but also descriptive because the stream is “replete with shiny riffles.” The name is intended to honor her grandfather, Arthur Starry (1918-1966), who settled on the family’s property along the stream in 1951 following service in World War II.

**Swatara River:** stream; 97 km (60 mi) long; heads on Broad Mountain in Foster Township at 40°41’03”N, 76°21’53”W, flows generally SW past Pine Grove, through Swatara State Park, to the W of Jonestown, N and W of Hershey and Hummelstown, to enter the Susquehanna River at Middletown; Dauphin County, Lebanon County, and Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania; 40°11’07”N, 76°43’57”W; USGS map - Middletown 1:24,000 (mouth of feature); Not: Swatara Creek (BGN 1932), The Swattie.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.18537&p\\_longi=-76.7324](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.18537&p_longi=-76.7324)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.68413&p\\_longi=-76.36479](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.68413&p_longi=-76.36479)

Proposal: to change the generic part of a name to more accurately describe the feature

Map: USGS Middletown 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: Jo Ellen Litz; Lebanon, PA

Administrative area: Swatara State Park

Previous BGN Action: Swatara Creek (BGN 1932)

Names associated with feature:

    GNIS: Swatara Creek (FID 1189149)

    Local Usage: Swatara Creek (Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; PennDOT 2004; Swatara Creek Watershed Association, Northern Swatara Creek Watershed Association, Swatara Creek Water Trail, Swatara Creek Inn Bed & Breakfast; Lebanon County Tourism Promotion Agency; Swatara Creek Outfitters; The Manada Conservancy; Dauphin County Park and Recreation Board; The Hershey Trust; The Milton Hershey School; Swatara Creek Bridge)

    Published: Great Swatara River (*The Origin of Certain Place Names in the United States*, 1905), Swatara Creek (USGS 1908, 1955, 1957, 1984, 1987, 2008; NOAA 2008; EPA 1998, 2006; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2003; Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, 2001, 2003; Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks, 2007; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1949; *The Statutes at Large of Pennsylvania 1682-1801*; Susquehanna River Basin Commission, 2003; Swatara Creek Watershed Conservation Plan, 2000; Conservation Fund, 2007; Lebanon County highway map, 1990; Schuylkill County highway map, 1990; Railroad and Post Office map of Pennsylvania, 1899; GreenTreks Network, 2006; Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, 2007; *Columbia Gazetteer*, 2000; *Great Natural Areas in Eastern Pennsylvania*, 1996; *The Indian Forts of the Blue Mountains*, 1896; DeLorme Atlas of Pennsylvania, 2003; family genealogies); Swatara River (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, 1997; Schuylkill County military history 1755; *Darby’s Universal Gazetteer: Or, A New Geographical Dictionary*, 1827; Navigation Report, 1830; Hershey Park and the Hershey Recreation Center, 2008)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change officially the name of Swatara Creek, a name made official by the BGN in 1932, to Swatara River. This 97 km (60 mi) long stream heads on Broad

Mountain in Schuylkill County before flowing generally in a southwesterly direction through Lebanon County and Dauphin County to enter the Susquehanna River at Middletown. The watershed of Swatara Creek covers an area of approximately 570 square miles, within 46 municipalities and four counties. “Swatara” is an Indian word that is reported to mean “Where we feed on eels.” The name Swatara Creek has appeared on Federal maps since at least 1908, but was also mentioned in various publications as early as 1794 (*The Statutes at Large of Pennsylvania 1682-1801*) and also in 1846 (*History and Topography of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin, Bedford, Adams and Perry Counties*; Rupp).

The proponent of the change believes that because of the size and significance of the feature, it should more accurately be named a River. According to a recent newspaper article on the proposed renaming, “The Swatara Creek may have missed out on being named River of the Year for the state, a recognition that could bring more money for improvements along the waterway. It’s very important. It is a river.” In 1999, the Environmental Protection Agency designated the Swatara Creek watershed in Lebanon County as its newest green community, thus recognizing the Watershed Association’s efforts to “work cooperatively with State agencies to address acid mine drainage problems, restore streambanks, and monitor water quality.” There are five USGS streamflow gaging stations on Swatara Creek. A search of the Internet yields a few references to the stream as Swatara River, ranging from a historical account of settlement in Schuylkill County in 1755, to a report on the internal navigation in the U.S. published in 1830, and a summary of legal decisions rendered in the U.S. prior to 1869. Henry Gannett’s 1905 volume *The Origin of Certain Place Names in the United States* described another stream as being a tributary of The Great Swatara River.

**Turtle Island**: island; 1 acre; in Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, along the Delaware River in Middle Smithfield Township; Monroe County, Pennsylvania; 41°05’11”N, 74°58’15”W; USGS map - Flatbrookville 1:24,000; Not: Sambo Island.

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.08645&lon=-74.97072&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Flatbrookville 1:24,000

Proponent: Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

Administrative area: Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Sambo Island (FID 1186891)

Local Usage: Sambo Island (National Park Service; Delaware River Basin Commission)

Published: Sambo Island (USGS 1986, 1997; NPS 2006; Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, 2005; *Pennsylvania Angler and Boater*, 2006; Delaware River Basin Commission, 2007; *Canoeing the Delaware River*, 1997; Delaware River Sojourn, 2003 to 2006)

Case Summary: This proposal would change officially the name of Sambo Island, a small island located along the Delaware River and within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, to Turtle Island. It was submitted by the Park Superintendent, in response to a request for comments on another proposal submitted to the BGN to change the names of Sambo Creek, Lower Dam Sambo Creek, and Sambo Creek Lower Reservoir, all located in nearby East Stroudsburg Township. The proponent of these three changes believes the island should also be renamed because the term “Sambo” is derogatory, but suggests it would more appropriate if the National Park Service selected a replacement name. The name Turtle Island was chosen in recognition of the Park’s efforts to preserve the environment of several species of turtle found in the vicinity of the



island (according to the proponent, “we moved a beach location in order to protect one population”). A report on Surface Water Quality Standards prepared by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and listed in the New Jersey Administrative Code of 2006, also mentions Sambo Island Creek and Sambo Island Pond, but neither of these names is listed in GNIS nor have their exact locations yet been determined.

## TEXAS

**Barksdale Creek**: stream; 1.3 km (0.8 mi) long; heads in the City of Fairview just W of State Route 5 at 33°09'25"N, 96°38'02"W, flows SE to enter Sloan Creek; named for Percy L. Barksdale (1918-1961), lifetime owner of the property through which the stream flowed; Collin County, Texas; 33°08'52"N, 96°37'43"W ; USGS map - McKinney West 1:24,000.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=33.14773&lon=-96.62867&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=33.1569&lon=-96.63387&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS McKinney West 1:24,000

Proponent: Tracy Homfeld; McKinney, TX

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Barksdale Creek is proposed for a 1.3 km (0.8 mi) long tributary of Sloan Creek, in the Town of Fairview in Collin County. The proposal was submitted by a Collin County Engineering Department technician, who believes the name would be an appropriate way to recognize the Barksdale family's 100 years of ownership of the property through which the stream flows. The name would specifically honor Percy Barksdale (1918-1961). There are five other features in Texas named “Barksdale,” including Barksdale Elementary School, also in Collin County, 23 km (14 mi) west-southwest of the stream in question. In addition, Indian Creek, 20 km (12 mi) to the southwest of the unnamed stream, was known at one time as Barksdale Creek, but in 1961 the BGN approved a proposal to change it to Indian Creek. According to the 1961 file, this decision was made to recognize the name in “predominant map and local usage.” The proponent was a member of a USGS field party working in the area, who reported that after speaking with several local residents, including a half dozen farmers, he learned that the name Barksdale Creek was used “only in the immediate area” and that the name Indian Creek was more widely known. The case file notes that Barksdale Creek had been named for “settlers about 1849.” It is not known whether these settlers had any relation to the intended honoree of this new proposal.

**Blue Dog Creek**: stream; 8 km (5 mi) long; heads 2.1 km (1.3 mi) E of Waggoner Gap at 31°15'26"N, 98°19'47"W, flows SSE to enter Barkley Creek 8 km (5 mi) E of Lometa; named for the Blue Dog Ranch, through which the stream flows; Lampasas County, Texas; 31°12'39"N, 98°17'48"W; USGS map – Ogles 1:24,000 (mouth of feature).

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=31.21083&lon=-98.29667&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=31.25729&lon=-98.32958&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=x&s=50>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature  
Map: USGS Ogles 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)  
Proponent: Callan and Carolyn Carpenter; Austin, TX  
Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
    GNIS: No record  
    Local Usage: None found  
    Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Blue Dog Creek is proposed for an 8 km (5 mi) long tributary of Barkley Creek in Lampasas County. The proposed name reflects the fact that a significant portion of the stream flows through the Blue Dog Ranch. According to the proponents, this “beautiful, perennial creek supports a lush riparian woodland and a diversity of bird, mammal, fish and amphibian species.” According to GNIS, there are no other geographic features in Texas named “Blue Dog.”

## WASHINGTON

**Howard Creek:** stream; 4.8 km (3 mi) long; in North Cascades National Park/Lake Chelan National Recreation Area/Stephen Mather Wilderness, heads 0.6 km (0.4 mi) SW of McGregor Mountain at 48°24'21"N, 120°48'24"W, flows SW then SE to enter the Stehekin River; named for Wilson Howard, who lived in a cabin and prospected for gold in the area around 1900; Chelan County, Washington; Secs 12,11&2, T33N, R16E and Secs 35&36, T34N, R16E, Willamette Mer.; 48°22'44"N, 120°48'29"W; USGS map – McGregor Mountain 1:24,000; Not: Coon Creek.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=48.37885&lon=-120.80809&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=48.4057&lon=-120.80672&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory  
Map: USGS McGregor Mountain 1:24,000  
Proponent: Jonathan Rosenblum; Seattle, WA  
Administrative area: North Cascades National Park/Lake Chelan National Recreation Area/Stephen Mather Wilderness  
Previous BGN Action: No record  
Names associated with feature:  
    GNIS: Coon Creek (FID 1518048)  
    Local Usage: None found  
    Published: Coon Creek (USGS 1978, 1987; NPS 2000)

Case Summary: This proposal was submitted by the Washington Board on Geographic Names, on behalf of a resident of Seattle, to change officially the name of Coon Creek to Howard Creek. The stream is 4.8 km (3 mi) long and lies within the Cascade Range in Chelan County, and also within the North Cascades National Park/Lake Chelan National Recreation Area/Stephen Mather Wilderness. The proposal was initiated in association with another, on BGN Review List 393, to rename nearby Coon Lake to Howard Lake. After the latter change was approved by the State Board, it was suggested that it would be logical if the names of the lake and stream were consistent and the proponent agreed. Although the name Coon Creek has appeared on Federal maps since at least 1978, the origin of the name has not been determined. However, the proponent believes both features were likely named for Wilson Howard, a black prospector who lived in a cabin in the area in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. He suggests the word “Coon” has become an ethnic slur and so it would be appropriate to change the names to more accurately honor the person for whom the features were

named. The Chelan County Commissioners and the State Board both recommend approval of the change to Howard Creek.

The National Park Service was asked to comment on the proposals for Howard Creek and Howard Lake but was unable to confirm that the features were named for Mr. Howard. The Park's preference is to retain the existing names but concedes that if they must be changed, new names honoring William McComb would be preferable. McComb was a member of the crew that cleared the first Stehekin Wagon Road on the Stehekin River in 1891. Counter-proposals for McComb Creek (q.v.) and McComb Lake (q.v.) have been submitted by the NPS. The State Board has been asked to comment on these new proposals.

**John Paulson Creek**: stream; 13 km (8 mi) long; heads 2.6 km (1.6 mi) WNW of the community of Plaza at 47°20'02"N, 117°24'46"W, flows SSW then SE to enter Pine Creek; named for John Paulson (1866-1953), longtime resident and farmer of the land through which the stream flows; Whitman County and Spokane County, Washington; Tps20&21N, Rgs43&42E, Willamette Mer.; 47°14'58"N, 117°26'11"W; USGS map – Plaza 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Creek.

Mouth:<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=11&n=5232978&e=466982&s=50&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

Source:<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=11&n=5242366.00017457&e=468819.999999999&datum=nad83&u=6>

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Plaza 1:24,000

Proponent: Kevin John Paulson; Spokane, WA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Creek (FID 1508659)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Squaw Creek (USGS 1977, 1980, 1984; Whitman County map, 1968;

Spokane County map, 1967; DeLorme Atlas of Washington, 1992; Benchmark Maps, 2004)

Case Summary: The name Squaw Creek is applied currently to a 13 km (8 mi) long stream that heads in southern Spokane County and flows south into Whitman County, to join Pine Creek just west of the community of Rosalia. The origin of the current name is not known. The proposed replacement name, John Paulson Creek, was submitted by the Washington Board on Geographic Names on behalf of a resident of Spokane, who wishes to honor his great-grandfather John Paulson (1866-1953). Paulson, who emigrated from Norway in 1881, was a member of one of the first pioneer families to settle in the area, having acquired property along the stream in 1887. He continued to farm the land until his death, and his descendants still farm it today.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe had previously submitted a proposal to change the stream's name to Shewtem Creek (a Coeur d'Alene word meaning "adolescent girl"), but the Tribe later withdrew that name in favor of Awtskin Creek (to be consistent with Awtskin Canyon, a proposed replacement name for nearby Squaw Canyon). After learning that the local community would not be supportive of either indigenous name, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe agreed to endorse John Paulson Creek instead. A local historian, the president of the Spokane County Historical Society, and the president of the Rosalia Battle Days Museum all support the proposal, as do the Whitman County Commissioners. According to the Washington Board, the proponent chose to submit the full name of the intended honoree to avoid any confusion with the members of the family still living in the area today.

**McComb Creek:** stream; 4.8 km (3 mi) long; in North Cascades National Park/Lake Chelan National Recreation Area/Stephen Mather Wilderness, heads 0.6 km (0.4 mi) SW of McGregor Mountain at 48°24'21"N, 120°48'24"W, flows SW then SE to enter the Stehekin River; named for William McComb, who built a cabin the area and who was employed in the building of the Stehekin Wagon Road; Chelan County, Washington; Secs 12,11&2, T33N, R16E and Secs 35&36, T34N, R16E, Willamette Mer.; 48°22'44"N, 120°48'29"W; USGS map – McGregor Mountain 1:24,000; Not: Coon Creek.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=48.37885&lon=-120.80809&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=48.4057&lon=-120.80672&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS McGregor Mountain 1:24,000

Proponent: National Park Service

Administrative area: North Cascades National Park/Lake Chelan National Recreation Area/Stephen Mather Wilderness

Previous BGN Action: No record

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Coon Creek (FID 1518048)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Coon Creek (USGS 1978, 1987; NPS 2000)

Case Summary: This proposal was submitted by the National Park Service in response to another proposal submitted previously to the BGN, to change the name of Coon Creek, a 4.8 km (3 mi) long stream in the Cascade Range in Chelan County. The stream also lies within the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area/Stephen Mather Wilderness, one of the units of the North Cascades National Park. The name Coon Creek has appeared on Federal maps since at least 1978; the origin of the name has not been determined. The original proposal, which was to change the name of nearby Coon Lake to Howard Lake, was submitted by a resident of Seattle who suggests it was likely named for Wilson Howard, a black prospector who lived in a cabin in the area. He believes the word “Coon” has become an ethnic slur and suggests it would be appropriate to rename the lake to more accurately honor the person for whom it was named. In subsequent correspondence, the proponent asked that a second proposal be initiated to rename nearby Coon Creek to Howard Creek (q.v.).

The National Recreation Area management was asked to research the issue. Although the Park’s Cultural Resources chief was able to confirm that two black prospectors did live in the area around 1900, and that Wilson Howard did reside in the Stehekin Valley, he found no definitive evidence that the lake and stream were named for Mr. Howard. The National Park Service would prefer that the existing names be retained, but suggested that if they must be changed, the names McComb Lake and McComb Creek would be “the preferred course of action.” According to the NPS’s counter-proposal, “William McComb was a contributor to the history of the area. He was the axeman on the crew that cleared the first Stehekin Wagon Road on the south side of the Stehekin River in 1891. He built two cabins on the north end of Company Creek Road. While McComb apparently left the valley by 1917, his cabin is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.”

**McComb Lake:** lake; 15 acres; in North Cascades National Park/Lake Chelan National Recreation Area/Stephen Mather Wilderness, 3.2 km (2 mi) SW of McGregor Mountain; named for William McComb, who built a cabin the area and who was employed in the building of the Stehekin Wagon Road; Chelan County, Washington; Sec 2, T33N, R16E, Willamette Mer.; 48°23'19"N, 120°49'56"W; USGS map – McGregor Mountain 1:24,000; Not: Coon Lake.

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=48.38861&lon=-120.83111>

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory  
Map: USGS McGregor Mountain 1:24,000  
Proponent: National Park Service  
Administrative area: North Cascades National Park/Lake Chelan National

Recreation Area/Stephen Mather Wilderness

Previous BGN Action: No record

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Coon Lake (FID 1518050)

Local Usage: Coon Lake (NPS 2006; hiking, backpacking and recreation guides)

Published: Coon Lake (USGS 1962, 1963/64, 1978, 1987; NPS 2006; USFS 1965, 1966, 1968; Chelan County highway map, 1966; *Lakes of Washington*, 1964; *Geographic Dictionary of Washington*, 1917; Lake Chelan Tourism Promotion Group, 2000)

Case Summary: This is the second proposal submitted by the National Park Service in response to two others submitted previously to the BGN, to change the names of Coon Lake and Coon Creek to Howard Lake and Howard Creek. The name Coon Lake has been applied to a 15-acre lake in the Cascade Range in Chelan County since at least 1962 and it was also labeled on the 1966 Chelan County highway map; the origin of the name has not been determined. The replacement name proposed by the Park Superintendent would also honor William McComb.

## WISCONSIN

**Byhre Lake**: reservoir; 70 acres; in Chequamegon National Forest, in the Town of Fifield, along Byhre Creek, 1.3 km (0.8 mi) upstream of its junction with the South Fork Flambeau River; named in association with Byhre Creek, along which the manmade lake is located; Price County, Wisconsin; Sec 19, T40N, R3E, Fourth Principal Mer.; 45°55'52"N, 90°09'01"W; USGS map – Pine Lake NW 1:24,000 (dam).

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.93101&lon=-90.1502&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=1&s=50>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Pine Lake NW 1:24,000 (dam)

Proponent: Kathy A. Sisel; Eagle River, WI

Administrative area: Nicolet-Chequamegon National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Byhre Lake (real estate listings)

Published: Byhre Lake (U.S. Forest Service South Fork Flambeau River Restoration Project, 2006; Fifield Town map, 2006)

Case Summary: The new name Byhre Lake was submitted by the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council (WGNC) on behalf of a representative of a local land development company, who wishes to make official a name for an unnamed body of water located along Byhre Creek. The 70-acre impoundment was created around 2000 by damming a portion of the stream, and the proponent's company has since subdivided and sold lots along the lake's shoreline. Various real estate companies are listing property for sale "on Byhre Lake," and the Byhre Lake Owners' Association has been established. According to the association's website, "Byhre Lake is the centerpiece of a new private vacation and second home development in the center of Northwoods Wisconsin." In a resolution approving the new subdivision plat in 2002, the Price County Planning and Zoning Committee referred to the property as the Byhre Lake Addition, and since then, a newly-published Town map has labeled the lake Byhre Lake. The proposed name is also mentioned in a U.S. Forest



Service South Fork Flambeau River Restoration Project report published in 2006. The Town of Fifield passed a resolution endorsing the name and the WGNC recommends approval as well. The origin of the name “Byhre” has not been determined.

**Cochran Creek**: stream; 1.9 km (1.2 mi) long; in Chequamegon National Forest, in the Town of Fifield, heads in a marshy area just SW of Cochram Lake (proposed Cochran Lake) at 45°57’31”N, 90°06’45”W, flows SE to enter Springstead Creek; named for several members of the Cochran family who acquired land patents in the area in the late 19th century; Price County, Wisconsin; Secs 15,16&9, T40N, R3E, Fourth Principal Mer.; 45°56’49”N, 90°06’05”W; USGS map – Pike Lake 1:24,000; Not: Cochram Creek.

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.94699&lon=-90.10138&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.9585&lon=-90.1126&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: name change to recognize local and historical use

Map: USGS Pike Lake 1:24,000

Proponent: Wisconsin Geographic Names Council

Administrative area: Chequamegon National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Cochram Creek (FID 1579025)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Cochram Creek (USGS 1971)

Case Summary: This proposal, to change the name of Cochram Creek to Cochran Creek, was initiated by the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council (WGNC), in association with another proposal submitted previously to change the name of Cochram Lake to Cochran Lake (BGN Review List 395). The latter change was submitted by the president of the Cochran Lake Management District, who reports that the name in local use has always been “Cochran,” and that the lake was named for several individuals named Cochran who acquired land patents in the area during the period 1880 to 1894. The 1.9 km (1.2 mi) long stream does not appear to flow directly into or out of the aforementioned lake but is in very close proximity, so the WGNC suggests the names should be consistent. The proponent knows of no family in the area named Cochram.

**Minnie Lake**: lake; 12 acres; in the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest, in the Town of Boulder Junction, 0.8 km (0.5 mi) W of the W end of High Lake; the name is descriptive as the lake is small (mini); Vilas County, Wisconsin; Secs 1&2, T42N, R7E, Fourth Principal Mer.; 46°09’15”N, 89°34’36”W; USGS map - Tenderfoot Lake 1:24,000.

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=46.15426&lon=-89.57649&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Tenderfoot Lake 1:24,000

Proponent: Allen B. Dassow; Pewaukee, WI

Administrative area: Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal would apply the new name Minnie Lake to a 12-acre body of water in the Town of Boulder Junction, and also within the boundaries of the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest. The proponent, a resident of Pewaukee, reports that several of the

property owners around the lake are building homes on the lake frontage but have no way to identify it on maps. He and his neighbors compiled a list of six possibilities and Minnie Lake was chosen because the lake is small (mini). The Town Selectmen of Boulder Junction are in support of the proposal, as is the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council.

**Wagner Creek**: stream; 11 km (7 mi) long; in the Town of Wagner, heads 1.4 km (0.9 mi) SW of the community of Wagner at 45°17'51"N, 87°45'04"W, flows generally E then NE then SE to enter the Menominee River opposite Long Island; named for its location in Wagner Township; Marinette County, Wisconsin; Secs 27-23, T33N, R22E and Secs 19&30, T33N, R23E, Fourth Principal Mer.; 45°17'33"N, 87°41'38"W; USGS map – Mcallister 1:24,000 (mouth of feature).

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.29245&lon=-87.69389&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.29762&lon=-87.75122&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Mcallister 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: Bill Weissgerber; Wausaukee, WI

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Wagner Creek to an unnamed 11 km (7 mi) long tributary of the Menominee River in the Town of Wagner. The proponent serves as the Chair of the Wagner Town Board and reports that this is the longest unnamed stream contained solely within the town's boundaries. The Town Board passed a resolution supporting the name, and the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council is in favor as well.